



# The Campus

## This Week

ISSUE 99 | June 24, 2022

## Forty farm animals arrive in Rabaul for Vudal Campus

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Mr. Edward Laki

PNG UNRE's Vudal campus came alive at 10:00pm on Wednesday night to welcome the arrival of 40 farm animals to campus from Lae.

Despite the prolonged power outage on campus, staff waited at the main University entrance while students came out of their dormitories and ran to the farm in jubilation over the arrival of the five horses, five sheep, ten pigs and 20 goats that were purchased by the University for their training.

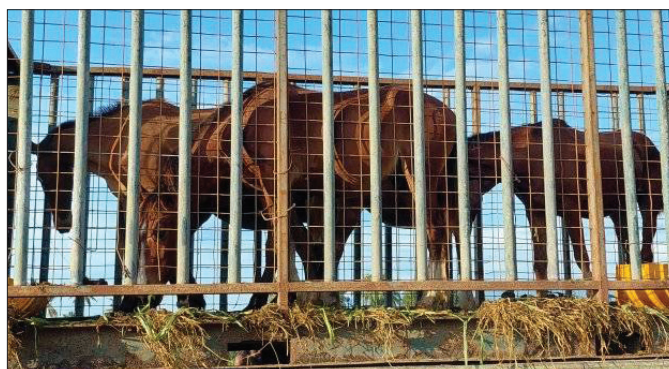
Moving animals to East New Britain from other parts of Papua New Guinea is nothing new, but this is by far the largest number of animals to be moved at any one time in close to three decades.

This incredible feat was achieved by a man on a mission to help produce the best graduates PNG UNRE has ever produced, Alex Nugi, manager of the University Farm; and his team of hardworking staff.

The Farm team were assisted by Animal Science lecturer Sinafa Robby and the Animal Science Department.

Several students thanked Mr Nugi profusely, even hugging him in excitement, for the efforts of the team in ensuring the livestock arrived safely in Vudal.

They arrived in Rabaul on Gazelle Coast after leaving



▲ The University's five horses which were purchased from Trukai Farms in Lae. Photo by Patrick Jnr Tobo.



◀ Julian Mazam of the Farm checks on the five sheep in their new home.

Photo by Patrick Jnr Tobo.

Lae on Saturday night last week.

While at sea, a pregnant goat gave birth to two kids, bringing the total number of animals to 42.

The kids were named Gazelle and Coast by Farm employee Otto Tanda who accompanied the animals on the voyage.

*The Campus This Week* will run a feature on the story in another issue, however, Mr Nugi has thanked everyone who contributed, including Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue and Bursar Edward Laki.



▲ Livestock Production student Lois Tunama cuddles one of the two kids that were born at sea.

## 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

is the official news bulletin of Papua New Guinea University of Natural Resources and Environment.

Produced weekly by the University's Public Relations Office, it is the voice of the University to relevant stakeholders and the community on developments at the University.

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# PNG UNRE turns 25 this year

**Papua New Guinea University of Natural Resources and Environment celebrates its 25th Anniversary as an autonomous University this year.**

The University was first established as Vudal Agricultural College, a college of the then Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries in 1965. It offered diploma training in agriculture.

On March 25, 1997, a Bill was passed in Parliament for the institution to become a fully fledged University, known as the University of Vudal. It was deemed to have come into operation on January 1, 1997.

The University's first Vice Chancellor was Professor Walter Wong and its Chancellor, the late Sir Alkan Tololo. At the time, Sir Alkan was also the Chancellor of the University of Technology in Lae.

In 2000, University of Vudal integrated Popondetta Agricultural College. Also in 2000, the Masters in Management program was introduced.

In 2005, the University Council under the Chancellorship of Sir Julius Chan, directed that the University expand to offer programs in other natural resources fields; and the environment as well.

The Fisheries and Marine Resources program was introduced in 2006. The pioneer Bachelor students graduated in the following year. The dux of the graduating class, Jane Wungen, is now an academic at the University.

Following this new direction, the University underwent a name change in 2009 to become Papua New Guinea University of Natural Resources and Environment.

Over the last three years, the University has seen significant growth. New programs such as Sustainable International Tourism, Forestry, Livestock Production, Environment and Climate Change, and Renewable and Environmental Engineering have been introduced.

## Congratulations



Silver Jubilee  
ANNIVERSARY

1997 - 2022



**PIUS CLEMENT**  
*Senior Animal Health  
Programme Manager*

Veterinary Field Services  
National Agriculture  
Quarantine & Inspection  
Authority

**2004-2006:**  
Diploma in Tropical  
Agriculture, Popondetta

**2010-2011:**  
Bachelor in Tropical  
Agriculture, Vudal

"It is my pleasure to congratulate PNG University of Natural Resources & Environment on its 25th anniversary.

I enrolled as a first year student at Popondetta Campus in 2004. I came directly from the highlands with no exposure at all to coastal life. It was the first time I saw the sea, coconut, cocoa, vanilla and basically every cash crop from the coast. It was a culture shock and I struggled to study in the warm temperature. But with the challenges also came positive and rewarding experiences.

The lecturers and other staff were veterans in their respective fields so even though the facilities were run down, the knowledge and technical skills I gained from these professionals (both in Popondetta and Vudal) have brought me this far. I now also have a Master of Science in Animal Genetics and Breeding from Huazhong Agricultural University in Wuhan, China.

I am a proud product and graduate of this pioneer Agriculture University in PNG. It not only gave me knowledge, skills and technical skills but also taught me to work hard in the field come rain or shine. With the opportunities provided by the university, I learnt to be my own boss and manager.

From personal experience, I have seen that our graduates are very hard working. They are successful business men and women. Real farmers not paper farmers. Good managers and manageress, administrators and bosses in many sectors not just in Agricultural industries. They all started somewhere from the cattle paddock in ENB or in Oro.

This is very special event not only for the university but for us as graduates of this remarkable university as this is the birth place of our career path. The place where our journey to where we are now, started. Congratulations."



# Postgraduate students undergo Zoom training

By ERIKE SIFUMA - School of Sustainable Business Resource Management

**THE PNG UNRE Centre for Post Graduate Studies and Research recently conducted a two days Zoom Beginners and Advance Training for its East New Britain Province-based Masters in Management students at its Vudal Campus.**

The training, conducted on the 14th and 16th of June, 2022 was the first of its kind either for the general University staff, or for any previous student cohorts of the Post Graduate Studies Centre, and was described as a shot in the arm by many who were quietly struggling to use this technology.

Ms. Nawio Api, the Executive Officer of the School, and long-time Coordinator of the University's flagship postgraduate program said the Centre was prompted to organize the training after seeing the current cohort of students struggling to interact with their James Cook University-based lecturers virtually through the Zoom platform.



▲ Workshop participants and trainer Mr Wilson Philip (top second left).

"The Covid 19 pandemic has had untold consequences worldwide, including restricting visiting professors from James Cook University conduct face to face lectures at Vudal Campus as was the case for many years. And since 2021, academics have been conducting lectures in real-time online for our MMS students," she said.

"However, we noted students having difficulties interacting with their academic mentors in their zoom-based classes. We hope the training

eases their burden of learning. And so on behalf of the Post Graduate and Research Centre we wish all of them a successful journey towards their masters degrees."

Ms Api said the training will also help the participants, many who work in education institutions, in their respective workplaces.

To run the training, the Centre did not have to look far, but within its own batch of postgraduate students for an expert and sought out Mr Wilson Philip, who has had many years of exposure to the technology as the IT Manager of the internationally-aligned medical research NGO, the Burnett Institute.

The training was practical, interactive and so need-based that participants could not hold back their gratitude to the Coordinator and Mr Philip for his immeasurable patience in volunteering his expertise.

In a quiet ceremony last Friday, 16 students received Certificates of Attainment in Zoom Beginners & Advance Training.

## Planning Team congratulates Obed

**THE Planning Office team on Monday congratulated colleague Obed Mandani on his graduation.**

Mr Mandani graduated from the University of Technology in Lae last Friday with a Bachelor in Architecture.

Planning Office Director Erick Kuk congratulated Mr Mandani and welcomed him to the Planning Office and the University.

"I have seen your work. It is good so I know you are abreast of the developments in your profession and are making use of technology," he said.

Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue also congratulated Mr Mandani on his graduation.

Mr Mandani thanked his colleagues and the University for assisting him with his final year research project.

He looks forward to contributing to the University's development.





## Semester 1 exams begin today



SEMESTER 1 exams begin today and will continue throughout next week.

Academic, technical and administrative staff have been hard at work preparing for the exams. *The Campus This Week* caught up with these ladies preparing Classroom 5 on Tuesday.



▲ First year students doing their Chemistry (STA: 113) exam this morning at the Hosea Turbarat Conference Hall. Photo by Wendy Wanio.

## Higaturu and UNRE partnership to continue



**THE partnership between New Britain Palm Oil Limited's Higaturu Oil Palms and the University will continue.**

The resolution was passed in a meeting held last Saturday in Popondetta between UNRE Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue and Acting General Manager of Higaturu Oil Palms, Khairul Zainal. Also in attendance were officers from both entities.

According to Acting Head of Forestry Joseph Kavon Warku, the current partnership was entered into in 2012 for the development of 154 hectares of oil palm at the University's Popondetta Campus. It is now in the process of being reviewed but both Higaturu and UNRE are happy to continue working together.

## Provincial Administration carry out LPV Awareness

**AN awareness on the Limited Preferential Voting system was conducted at Vudal Campus on Tuesday.**

The awareness was conducted by three officers of East New Britain Provincial Administration's Division of Provincial and Local Level Government and Ward Affairs.

They were Paul Kapa, Rachel Atam and Bartson Aigam.

Mr Kapa said the initiative came about the last election saw many informal votes in the province.

"I don't know why. Maybe it was ignorance because people did not know how to cast their votes. This is why we are conducting the awareness throughout the province," he said.

Mr Kapa said there are three ways voters can cast their votes.

Firstly, they can write only the numbers of their



▲ ENB Provincial Administration's Paul Kapa explains how to fill the ballot paper.

three candidates in order of preference; secondly they can write just the names of their three preferred candidates or they can write both the number and names of their candidates.

He advised that when voters are handed the ballot papers for both the Regional and Open seats, it is important that the signature of the presiding officer is at the back of both papers.

"Before you fill the forms, make sure the signature of the presiding officer is at the back. This is very important. If there is no signature, you must take the form back and have it signed because if there is no signature, even if you fill the form correctly, your vote will be counted as informal."

The talk was held at the University Fresh Food Market.



▲ Photos above are of those who were present including PVC (Planning & Development) Dr Livingstone Tavul.