

# THE CAMPUS THIS WEEK

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## UNRE to host National TSCF Conference in 2024

PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment will host the National Tertiary Student Christian Fellowship Conference in 2024.

In preparation for the event, UNRE TSCF presented the National TSCF Conference Road Map on Saturday. PNG UNRE Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue, Pro Vice Chancellor Planning and Development Dr Livingstone Tavul, ENB Provincial Administrator Mr Levi Mano, TSCF NGI Director Lesly Tade, TSCF NGI President Ps Mack Eremugo and representatives from the schools affiliated with New Guinea Islands TSCP, attended the event. A total of 17 schools in the province are affiliated to the NGI TSCF.

Mr Mano thanked the students for the initiative and challenged students to live the Word.

He told the students that there is no other way to overcome the issues faced today, we all need to turn to God for the answers. The law-and-order problem escalating in the province, the critical and challenging time the government is facing and the tough economic situation of the country needs every believer to stand together and seek God.

The University Vice Chancellor Professor Pue said God has created us and given us the power to be able to do what we can do.



▲ UNRE VC and the team at Road Map Presentation

"I have great trust and believe in what is taking place. UNRE is only an avenue and happy to be the host of this important event that will transform this nation. We must all work together and make it happen," said Prof Pue. He personally pledged K1000 as a commitment towards the event fundraising.

Dr Tavul announced as part for University's support towards the event, additional maintenance work will be done to the stadium that will be used during the graduation and preparation for the 2024 National TSCF Conference.

Dr Tavul challenged the TSCF Ministry to help contribute effectively to addressing social problems arising in universities and institutions throughout the province.

Dr Tavul also pledged K1000 towards the event fundraising.

The National TSCF Conference is hosted annually, this year 2023, UPNG TSCF hosted the event and passed the baton to NGI TSCF to be the next host and PNG UNRE was chosen to host the event in 2024.

This annual TSCF Conference does not focus only on spiritual aspects, but it also focuses on educational aspects for the nation's development. There is training rolled out in the conference workshops sessions, Developing leaders, Academic excellence, Entrepreneurship, Professionalism at workplace, Missions, marriage, freedom from addiction and many more.

## Talasea District presents a cheque of K30,000 to UNRE students

TALASEA District of West New Britain Province for the first time presented a cheque of K30,000 to assist 15 students studying at PNG UNRE.

The District Administrator Melchior Bako and his officer Gwendoline Galia visited the University last week to present the cheque on behalf of Talasia MP Freddie Reu Kumai.

Mr Bako explained to students that the assistance provided by the district does not take away the responsibility of the parents, the district is only subsidising the fees.

He said if the students have completed their fees under other assistance such as the HELP program, it is now under the prerogative of the district to allow the University to use the funds to help other unfortunate students from the district. He strongly stressed to students that they are not allowed to ask the University to give them the money for personal use, the money belongs to the people of Talasea and must be used in an appropriate manner.

Mr Bako said the district in the future is looking at awarding students with best

GPA's with certain incentives. He urged students to do their best and return to help develop Talasea district.

On behalf of the students, UNRE lecturer Mr Joseph Warku conveyed their gratitude to the Talasea MP Mr Kumai for the timely assistance as students began the second semester.

"We would like to see more of this and request if the assistance can be extended to students of Talasea studying at UNRE Popondetta Campus," said Mr Warku.

# UNRE receives support from DJAG for Crime Prevention

THE project on Crime Prevention in Socio-Economic Development Strategies has resumed and is progressing well in East New Britain with financial support from Department of Justice and Attorney General.

Last Friday, PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment presented attainment certificates to 60 participants who attended a three-day training on baking conducted by UNRE staff Mr. John Lote. Participants were taught how to bake buns, bread, sweet biscuits, muffins, birthday cakes and pizza.

This was made possible after DJAG Executive Director, Crime Prevention Mr. Terry Lui led a delegation to PNGUNRE Kairak Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (KCfSRD) last Wednesday and presented two cheques valued at K227,272.70 to continue funding two Crime Prevention Pilot Projects implemented by KCfSRD in Reimber-Livuan LLG of Gazelle District ENBP and Wosera District in ESP.

During the presentation, Mr. Lui said the Department was satisfied so far with the progress of the Crime Prevention Pilot Projects particularly in ENBP regardless of challenges faced since the partnership between DJAG and PNGUNRE began in 2017. Because of this, the Department has allocated the additional funding and requested KCfSRD to quickly develop Activity Plans for the implementation.

In receiving the cheques, the Acting Vice Chancellor and Pro VC Planning and

Development Dr. Livingstone Tavul thanked Mr. Terry Lui for the additional funding and promised that PNGUNRE through its Community Outreach and Extension Services arm, the KCfSRD will ensure the funding is utilised to achieve DJAG aims and objectives.

The Crime Prevention in Socio-Economic Development Strategies focusing on Youths is a pilot project established in 2017 between the Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) and the PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment (PNGUNRE) and implemented by the Kairak Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (KCfSRD).

Over 400 male and female youths from the two pilot project areas are currently in the program and they have attended the Sustainable Livelihoods and Decision Making, Cocoa and Balsa trainings and supplied with Cocoa Hybrid and Balsa Seedlings. These seedlings are now over 2 years old.

The strategy is to use Agriculture activities as an intervention in addressing Law and Order issues before they happen.

## Key points for collaboration

Both parties (DJAG & PNGUNRE) recognised the important factors;

- The need to contribute towards just, safe, and secure communities through the partnership that promotes self-reliability, social well-being and discourage criminal or anti-social

behaviour through empowering youths in socio-economic activities.

- The need to facilitate delivery of justice services by acknowledging and strengthening restorative justice which includes the rehabilitation of individuals who come into conflict with the law, the re-integration of individuals into their communities and encouraging the community involvement in Crime Prevention and restorative justice through socio-economic empowerment activities.
- The need to develop growth in integral human development, identifying potentials and promoting self-confidence, self-reliance in individuals encouraging productivity and contributing meaningfully in income-generating activities, food security and sustainable livelihoods in advancing crime prevention and restorative justice in the communities.

## Key Objectives

The Key Objectives of the partnership are;

1. Reduce Crime through Socio-Economic Intervention Programs targeting Crime Hotspots
2. Creating Peaceful communities and law-abiding citizens
3. Providing Access to Education and Training Opportunities for Youths in vulnerable communities
4. Improved income-generating activities for youths through the promotion of farming initiatives Establishment of Agriculture Institutional Hubs

# IAEA program needs more support from government

THE International Atomic Energy Agency program implemented in universities, institutions and stakeholders needs government's support.

The recent visit by the IAEA team to PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment indicated that the implementation of projects with stakeholders especially in the agricultural sector, health and universities has been a struggle.

"We've been working with the project implementors, although we are struggling, we are progressing and I commend the program implementors for that," said George Otto.

Mr Otto is engaged with IAEA and is also the Program Manager with

National Department of Health.

He said the technology is new and its implementation encounters many challenges and other difficulties. However, he is impressed that UNRE has implemented some of the projects under the IAEA program.

Ms Betty Kenny who is taking lead in the IAEA program implemented at UNRE said the lab equipment to carry out research has been left idle for several years due to number of issues. However, this does not stop UNRE Farm staff to implement the knowledge and skills to students in cattle artificial insemination and other research work.

For instance, students studying Bachelor in Sustainable Livestock Production (BSLP) Ruminant Animal

Production Course are trained on animal Artificial Insemination (AI), Palpation and Pregnancy Testing.

PNGUNRE is privileged to have Mr. Brendon Navus and Mr. Apelis Kapi who went for AI training in Sri Lanka in 2020 and are now able to transfer the knowledge and skills to students learning as well as apply this technique on cattle breeding at UNRE farm.

The UNRE Farm Operations Manager Mr Alex Nugi and Ms Kenny also attended various trainings under the IAEA program. PNG has been an IAEA Member State since 2012. Its 2016-2021 CPF identifies four priority areas:

1. Health and Nutrition
2. Food and Agriculture
3. Water and Environment
4. Radiation Safety and Security.