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# PNG UNRE introduces new Business in Accounting and Finance program

# 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.

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Acting Head of the Department of Business & Accounting Mr Anthony Anugu (front third from left) with the pioneer cohort of the BSBAF program. Photo courtesy of Gamoga Bogarei.

PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment (PNG UNRE) has launched its newest academic program, the Bachelor of Sustainable Business in Accounting and Finance (BSBAF), with the first batch of students commencing classes on Monday (March 31st).

Acting Head of the Department of Business and Economics, Mr Anthony Anugu, said the program is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate sustainability into accounting and finance practices, the addressing growing need for environmentally and socially responsible business strategies.

Mr Anugu, who was at the forefront of developing the curriculum, said, the BSBAF program has a unique blend of specialized units that are not commonly found in traditional accounting and finance programs. These include:

• Carbon Accounting which focuses on the measurement, tracking, and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions. Students learn how to quantify and manage carbon footprints, ensuring businesses meet regulatory requirements and achieve sustainability goals;

• Oil and Gas Accounting which provides an indepth understanding of the financial and regulatory aspects of the oil and gas industry, covering topics such as exploration costs, production accounting, and taxation specific to the energy sector;

• Natural Resources Management which teaches students how to manage natural resources sustainably. It includes topics on land use planning, conservation strategies, and the economic implications of resource management;

Accounting of Animal and Other Industry Bio Chemicals which focuses on the financial aspects of industries dealing with animal products and biochemicals. lt covers cost management, regulatory compliance, and sustainability practices in these sectors; and

• Cashless Economy and E-Business Finance which explores the financial systems that support cashless transactions, including e-banking, digital payments, and commodity trading.

Mr Anugu said the development of the BSBAF program was driven by the increasing need for professionals who

#### New curriculum blends theory and practical

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can integrate business strategies with agricultural, fisheries and other natural resources development, ensuring food security and economic resilience in Papua New Guinea.

Industry stakeholders and academic experts collaborated to design a curriculum that balances theoretical knowledge with hands-on experience in finance, agribusiness operations, and market analysis.

Thanking those who collaborated, UNRE Vice-Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue highlighted the program's significance in fostering a new generation of leaders in agribusiness and finance.

"This program is а milestone in our efforts to enhance PNG's natural renewable sectors such as agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry and even tourism through sound business practices and financial literacy. We are confident that our graduates will contribute meaningfully to the country's economic transformation," he said.

Professor Pue said the introduction of the BSBAF program reaffirms UNRE's commitment to producing industry-ready graduates and supporting sustainable economic growth in PNG.

Students enrolled in the program are excited about the opportunity to gain specialized training that aligns with the evolving financial demands of the natural resources and environmental sectors.

PNG UNRE encourages prospective students and industry professionals to explore this new academic pathway and contribute to the nation's development.

#### Library Aid International donates container full of books

#### By LUI PHILIP

Acting Librarian, PNG UNRE

THE University Library is proud to announce the arrival of a 20-ft shipping container packed to full capacity with donated books from Library Aid International (LAI), a nongovernment organization based in Melbourne, Australia.

This generous contribution follows the library's request for support, which LAI responded to by mobilizing its networks across Australia.

Individuals and organizations nationwide donated books, which were sorted and packed at LAI's Melbourne warehouse before being shipped to Rabaul - fully funded by LAI, including all shipping and associated costs.

A total of 1,036 boxes were received, with 176 boxes specifically allocated to UNRE. These contain textbooks and reference materials relevant to the university's core disciplines, particularly Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries.

Additionally, 131 boxes were distributed to Sonoma Adventist College Library, as per the donor's request, while the remainder comprising primary and secondary school textbooks -has been allocated to selected schools within the province.

Distribution commenced in January, with several hundred boxes still to be delivered.

Early childhood education also benefited, with UNRE Honeybee Play & Elementary School receiving two boxes of books and five packs of educational posters and charts. With the current foreign exchange challenges making it increasingly difficult to purchase quality library books from overseas, such donations are crucial in supporting the library's efforts to build and enhance its collections.

As new programs are introduced and student intake grows, access to updated resources remains a priority.

The library is deeply grateful to LAI for this invaluable support and will now focus on cataloging the books to ensure they are accessible to students.

This donation marks a significant milestone in the university's ongoing commitment to academic excellence and resource development.



▲ Books being sorted in the Library.



Mr Lui Philip (second left) hands over books to the Sonoma Adventist College Team.

### **Totovel Primary benefits from LAI book donation**

TOTOVEL PRIMARY SCHOOL in Livuan Reimber LLG, Gazelle District, is one of the beneficiaries of a book donation from Library Aid International Inc.

Handing over five cartons of books to school representatives, senior librarian Mr Steven Ule emphasized the challenge of delivering quality education in rural areas.

He highlighted the need for increased funding and trained personnel to manage school libraries, noting that many schools lack proper library facilities.

Mr Ule also stressed the importance of training teachers to run mini libraries; and raised concerns about the high costs of books and maintaining libraries, especially with the depreciation of the PNG Kina.

A highly trained librarian who has served UNRE for many years, Mr Ule said it is sad that many schools in the province don't have libraries, a fundamental learning resource.

"Even the electronic library is not applicable for schools in the remote areas, the electronic library needs technology to access and requires annual subscription payment if schools are renting external database," said Mr Ule.

He expressed hope that the government would increase its investment in education, particularly in funding the essential costs associated with delivering quality education to rural communities.