



WASDOK NIUS



July 2012 edition

OC Directors attend Masters program at Divine Word University



Left: Director Complaints, Mr Molita and Director Leadership, Mr Damaru.

Two Senior Officers of the Ombudsman Commission are among ten senior executive personnel privileged to study at the Divine Word University (DWU) Flexible Learning Centre, thanks to Department of Personnel Management through AusAid for funding the program.

Director Leadership Mathew Damaru and Director Complaints & Administration Investigative Division Joseph Molita, completed first part of the Masters in Public Administration program recently.

The Public Sector Workforce Development Program came about as part of the implementation of the Vision 2050. Under Institutional Development pillar (Public Service reforms) the plan is to encourage public servants to hold a bachelors degree or equivalent and for senior public service management level staff to strive to hold a Masters degree or equivalent.

The program was tendered for a university in PNG to run the program and DWU won the bid and is now implementing the program.

The program offers different modules ranging from ethics in the Public Service to Public Administration Theory and Practice. Mr Molita applauded the program saying it is very practical to the kind of work in the Public Service and he said it helps to link in other government departments.

The program requires two weeks on campus for the first semester and three weeks on campus for the second semester.

Mr Damaru said the two-year program is very helpful especially to those in the executive level. The program basically enhances participants' skills and knowledge. He further stated that it broadens their knowledge and helps them see situations from a wider perspective.

Both officers were very supportive of the program and suggested that Senior Managers of the Commission participate in this very helpful program.

Mr Damaru and Mr Molita would complete the program next year and graduate with Masters in Public Administration in 2014.

Participants in this program come from the Investment Promotion Authority, Department of Personnel Management, Department of Justice & Attorney General, Department of Health, National Roads Authority and the Ombudsman Commission.

VISION

Fair, just and effective leadership and good governance in Papua New Guinea.

MISSION

To promote and foster quality leadership and good governance and strengthen respect for Rule of Law in accordance with Section 218 of the Constitution.

The Ombudsman Commission is committed to (6) fundamental values in all dealings with government bodies, the private sector, members of the public and the leaders.

The values uphold are;

- ◇ Impartiality
- ◇ Integrity
- ◇ Independence
- ◇ Accountability
- ◇ Responsiveness
- ◇ Respect

[Ombudsman Commission Strategic Plan 2011-2015]

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Librarian attends training at PAU

By Catherine Mamui

Systematic organisation of appropriate resources is fundamental to support the functions of an organisation.

This was the message from the facilitators of the recent library workshop, Dr Jillian Thiele, Affiliation Officer and Ita Kemba, Head Librarian of the Pacific Adventist University (PAU). The workshop was organised by the University Library for Librarians and Information specialists from the 17 - 20 July 2012 at PAU.

I was among six Librarians, seven PAU library staff and three PAU students who attended the first ever library training workshop held at PAU campus outside of Port Moresby.

Out of the six Librarians, four had library qualifications while two had no library training at all in their employment in school libraries. Both Librarians were grateful and expressed appreciation to the facilitators for organising the workshop.

The workshop program covered basics to online library services which was greatly appreciated by everyone. It was an opportunity to have hands on experience online and familiarise ourselves in using the online services available for us.

While it was more of a refresher course for me, the workshop made me realise how some libraries have advanced in terms of technology and are now connecting to the major libraries of the world and browsing and purchasing books online.

The importance of time management was very well stressed and other library activities and librarians were reminded that libraries are *service-oriented* institutions and the majority of their clients are 'drop ins' which create issues of time management.

“the workshop made me realise how some libraries have advanced in terms of technology and are now connecting to the major libraries of the world and browsing and purchasing books online.”

The main topics covered were; Collection development, Circulation & Reference, Customer service, Time Management, Acquisition, Budgeting, Online Databases, E-resources, online cataloguing, Library policy and Electronic Record Keeping.

editorial

Welcome to July's edition of
Wasdok Newsletter

Hello everyone,

In this month's edition of Wasdok newsletter, you will read about two senior OC officers' participation in the Masters program at DWU and the outcomes of the Tribunals of Mr Somare, Mr Maipakai and Mr Semoso.

We also bring you stories from the ladies end of the month get together and some issues raised in the second quarter Performance Management Review.

You can also read about OC librarian's training experience at the Pacific Adventist University, outside Port Moresby.

Happy Reading...

Editor

Semoso dismissed from office and Maipakai pays K500 each for 7 allegations

The purpose of a Tribunal inquiry is to determine whether a leader is guilty of misconduct in office. If the leader is guilty, it is recommended that the person be dismissed from office or position or that some other penalty provided for by the law be imposed.

Three Members of Parliament were referred to the Public Prosecutor in 2006 and 2011. Following the referral, in 2012 a Leadership Tribunal was appointed to inquire into the allegations of misconduct in office against Mark Maipakai Member for Kikori, Fidelis Semoso, Bougainville Regional Member and Arthur Somare, Member for Angoram.

Mr Maipakai, was referred to the Public Prosecutor in October 2011. The following year the Chief Justice appointed Justice Salatiel Lenalia as Chairman and Magistrates Ignatius Kure and Nerrie Eliakim as members to commence the inquiry immediately upon presentation of the Reference by the Public Prosecutor. The Reference contained 16 allegations of misconduct on Mr Maipakai's failure to lodge annual statement on time, failure to provide additional information when demanded by the Commission and an adulterous affair with a married woman which resulted in break down of a family unit.

Mr Maipakai pleaded guilty to 7 allegations and not guilty to the rest including the allegations on the adulterous affair.

The Tribunal recommended that Mr Maipakai pay a fine of K500 each of the 7 annual statement allegations (K3, 500) and K1, 000 for the allegation on an adulterous affair with a married woman which resulted in the break down of a family unit On 6 June 2012.

The same Tribunal on Maipakai's matter also dealt with Mr Semoso's matter which commenced on 21 February 2012 when it accepted the Public Prosecutor's Reference containing 14 allegations of misconduct in office.

After sitting for a total of 29 days (including 14 days in Buka), the Tribunal found Mr Semoso guilty of using his office for the benefit of his associates, guilty of misappropriating public funds; guilty of sexual assault, torture and humiliating his house girl and guilty of failing to disclose his interest in a contract. Mr Semoso was guilty of a total of 11 out of 16 allegations on 16 July 2012.

The Tribunal recommended that Mr Fidelis Semoso be dismissed from the office of the Regional Member of Parliament for Bougainville on 24 July 2012. In its recommendation for dismissal, the Tribunal stressed that "*a penalty of dismissal must be imposed to act as deterrence and to protect the people of ARB from conduct of leaders such as Mr Semoso*". The Tribunal also completed all the formalities by forwarding its recommendations to the Governor-General.

Tribunal fines Mr Somare of K1, 500 for 3 allegations he pleaded guilty on

The Arthur Somare leadership tribunal was initially appointed in 2006 but due to several Court challenges the inquiry did not start until 4 July 2011 when Public Prosecutor presented a reference containing 11 allegations of misconduct in office. The presentation of the allegations to the tribunal sparked further Court challenges by Mr Somare which went as far as the Supreme Court which dismissed Mr Somare's application and directed the Leadership Tribunal to start.

The Tribunal received Mr Somare's response pleading guilty to 3 allegations on his failure to submit annual statements to the Commission for the period 1998/1999; 199/2000 and 2000/2001 on 1 June 2012. He pleaded not guilty to eight allegations in failing to comply with Ombudsman Commission's Direction issued under Section 27(4) of the *Constitution* and misappropriation of District Support Grant "Discretionary" component.

The tribunal delivered its decision that Mr Somare MP was not guilty of eight allegations of misconduct in office and confirmed his guilty plea to three of the allegations on annual statements on 24 July 2012.

The tribunal inquiry recommended a fine of K1, 500 for the 3 allegations and said that although the misconduct was not trivial there was no serious culpability on the part of the leader and that public policy and the public good did not require any harsher penalty than a fine on 26 July 2012 as the leader had already been ousted. A penalty of dismissal from office would not be considered as well. The tribunal asked Mr Somare to pay his fine at the National Court Registry.

Female officers enjoy end of month get-together



Left: The four ladies that came in their 'meri blouse' style. Brenda Oreke, Nerol Ilarupa, Janet Tamaweto and Alexia Luke.

OC female officers were asked to come in their best Pacific Style dressing on 10 June 2012. There were only four female officers who wore 'meri blouse', the rest were fined K5 for not dressing up in Pacific Style.

The July end of the month get together was enjoyable. The theme of the get together was Pacific Style dressing. We had Mrs Luke come in Fijian style and Nerol Ilarupa in Kiribati style. Olto Thomas came in PNG's bilum wear.

The activities included each officer sharing her dreams after she leaves the Commission. It was interesting to hear different plans officers have for the future. One officer said she wants to venture into business and in 2017, she would run for national elections.

The next end of month get together would be arranged by the Regions and External Relations Division.

At the end of every month, female officers of the Ombudsman Commission (OC) get together to share and have lunch. This month's get together was led by IT Manager Alexia Luke and female officers of the Support Services Division.

Right: Female officers pose for a picture after the get together event.

Seated third from left is Ombudsman Sangetari and next to her is Nerol in her Kiribati top.

In the second row third from left is Olto in her bilum wear and right behind her is Alexia in her Fijian dressing.

Those who did not come in Pacific style were asked to choose a country of their choice and explain why they liked that country.



Give Regional Offices the support they require: Barilae



Right: Mr Barilae, Momase Regional Manager raising a point during Quarter 2 Performance Management Review on 19–20 July 2012.

“Head Office officers are not giving Regional Offices the support they require.” This was one of the issues raised in the third Quarter Performance Management Review (PMR) held on 19 – 20 July 2012. Allan Barilae, Momase Regional Manager expressed frustration on how Regional officers are attended to by officers in the Head Office (HO) in Port Moresby.

Mr Barilae raised this concern and said HO officers are ignorant to Regional Offices issues. He raised this issue following the closure of Highlands Regional Office in Mt Hagen due to non payment of rental.

Mr Barilae stated that when Regional Officers ring to the Head Office, no one bothers to answer the phone. He said their queries and issues are not properly addressed.

In other comments made during PMR, Gerega Asisi T/Leader Annual Statement Assessment Unit of the Leadership Division raised a concern that contract officers are not entitled to overtime payment hence they should be compensated. Mr Asisi said contract officers or those in the management level often work after official hours because there is lack of manpower. He said if officers work overtime they should be given day offs as compensation.

Timothy Wrumongo T/Leader Unit 6 of Complaints Division also supported the idea of contract officers being compensated with day offs.

New ID Card rolls out to benefit Members

A handy ID card is the latest innovation being introduced by Nambawan Super to benefit Members.

The Member ID Card will help streamline transactions between Nambawan Super and the Member, for example to update the Member’s details or change contribution arrangements or make withdrawals.

And it will make it a much simpler process to claim Member discounts and special offers from the leading PNG businesses on our Member Benefit list.

So far 15 of the 276 employer organisations whose employees are eligible to hold the Member ID Card have provided the necessary information to Nambawan Super. Cards have already been delivered to eight of these organisations.



Contact your HR section to find out how to get your Member ID Card.

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