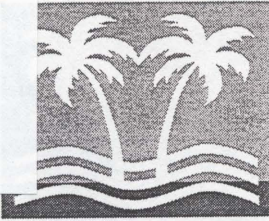


(MB)
LC
3501.
P1
.A316



THE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.

Ala Mai Pasifika

NEWSLETTER FOR PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

No. 5

MAR/APR 97

Greetings, Kia ora, Ni sa bula, Kam na mauri, Talofa lava, Fakalofa lahi atu,
Halo olgeta, Malo e lelei, Kaselehlia, Yokwe, Kia orana!

Talofa lava and Hi everyone!

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this years' first edition of 'Ala mai Pasifika'. My name is Silipa Silipa (a.k.a. Ripa) and I am the editor for AMP for 1997. I completed my Masters in Education at Auckland University and have enrolled at Canterbury as a full-time PhD student in Pacific Studies.

I humbly extend my warm greetings to all of you Pacific Island students; first years and returning students who are currently attending Canterbury University in 1997.

It has been a daunting experience trying to approach Pacific Island students during enrolment week. I reckon that some students were too shy to approach Kate and I and perhaps others were too busy trying to get their enrolments out of the way. Next time you see me anywhere around varsity or in town, do not hesitate to come up and say hi! or chat with me for a sec., I am a very approachable and easy-going person. The staff of the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific studies and I are working together to keep you informed about the local issues concerning Pacific Island students at university.

HAVE A VERY THOROUGH AND SMOOTH 1997 JOURNEY!

Silipa Silipa
(Editor)

Don't forget any news that you think should be advertised or would be of interest to readers can be sent to me. You can find me in the Macmillan Brown Centre, level 7, James Hight Tower (JHT - entrance is opposite the café bar) or phone me on extension 7958 (leave a phone message if I'm not available).

REMEMBER! If you are having difficulty with anything relating to your studies and want to start a study/support group, contact Dr. Ueantabo Neemia-Mackenzie on ext 6937. Ueantabo is the co-ordinator of the Graduate Programme in Pacific Studies and a member of the University Grievance Committee. Lemuel Pearse, Maori Liaison Officer is also available for those needing advice on courses, scholarships etc. He can be found in the Liaison office, level 4, Registry on ext 8993.

I wish everyone the very best with studies for this year. Don't give up easily - hang in there - Don't undermine your worth - you can do it - Nothing is impossible! **DON'T STRUGGLE ON YOUR OWN, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP YOU.**

CONTENTS: Introduction P1, Feature story P2, Book Launch & Notices P3

FEATURE STORY

Survival of the Fittest

by Silipa Silipa

Pacific Island students at Canterbury University, especially first year students from the Islands or from here in New Zealand, continue to be frustrated and disappointed by the unapproachable attitudes of some staff members of the administration and the etiquette procedures imposed by the system. Complaints are being verbalised here and there around varsity and on the playing fields on various issues ranging from enrolments- (not accepting in limited entry papers) to allowances and loans. These maybe some of the questions that come in mind; What else should I take?, Who should I see?, How come I was not accepted?, What is my next move?, Am I going to get an allowance/loan?, Perhaps these are some of the countless questions that some of you are still juggling with, and perhaps affecting you psychologically.

Do not hesitate to seek advice, consult your lecturers, or any staff member at the Registry, or take a trip up to the 7th floor of the James Hight Building of the Library where the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies is located and ask for Dr. Ueantabo Mackenzie or Mrs Kate Scott for advice.

Get stuck into the system NOW! ! !
Establish a rapport with those around you, Pick their brains if you have time, and do not forget to reward yourself after every

mission is accomplished i.e. getting physical /having an ice cream.

It is time that you warmed up and be motivated to be in this ball game. Gone are the days in the classroom/home, whereby you have been spoon-fed by your teachers and coming home to the warmth of your families where everything is provided for by mum and dad treating you like a Prince/Princess.

Sorry Mate! this is a completely different new ball game. You are on your own, if you don't do your work you would likely be left behind and eventually burn out before the end of the year. Don't sit around and wait for a Samaritan to come by and lend you a hand. You can only survive in this type of institution if you can challenge the system.

To be part of the system you should conform to rules and regulations imposed by the university. Condition yourselves to numerous changes that may arise and be prepared to expect the unexpected.

Try and keep to the Palagi times for once !
Avoid; excuses, extensions, delays and most of all, next week, please.

WARNING: "Procrastination is the thief of Time."

Please let me know if you are not receiving this newsletter and would like to be added to our mailing list.
Phone Silipa, 3642957 ext 7958

RECENT BOOK LAUNCH

'Tamaitai Samoa: Their Stories'

by *Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop*

published by the Institute of Pacific Studies & KIN Publications

'In times of adversity they literally shrugged their shoulders and kept going, adapting to every life event ...'

Dr Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop was in Christchurch recently to launch her book, "*Tamaitai Samoa: Their stories*," the first historical account of Samoan women. Their stories are a moving account of women's perceptions of their roles, responsibilities, aspirations and expectations about what women hold dear. These stories present an invaluable historical account of family life in Samoa through almost 100 years. They show the influence of the ideas introduced by the missionaries, traders, administrators and educators, on women, their families and communities and the institutional structures of the emerging nation, but most of all, on the *fa'a Samoa*. While each chapter is a personal story, the stories form a comprehensive and powerful picture of the life-cycle and factors influencing women's lives.



Pictured at the launch are, from left to right, Teta Pa'ō Sopo'a'ga, Ataga'i Esera, Peggy Fairbairn Dunlop and Rangī Oberg. PHOTO: Bussy Memea-Ma'aelopa

For anyone interested in purchasing a copy (price \$39.95) a few copies are available from the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, level 7, JHT or Books Pasifika, Auckland.

NOTICES

Pacific Island Students Get-Together

You are invited to our annual
Pacific Island student get-together.

Date: Thursday, 3 April 1997

Where? PACS common room
level 8, James Hight Tower

Time: 4-6 p.m.

Don't be shy. Come and
meet some of your fellow students.
Hope to see YOU there!

Please bring a plate of food.



Pacific Island Scholarships

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade is offering two scholarships to Pacific Island students. These scholarships aim to help Pacific Island students through their final year of study and to encourage Pacific Island students to consider a career in foreign affairs and trade. The scholarships are worth \$4000.

To be eligible, you must be a Pacific Islander who is a New Zealand citizen, in your final year of study in 1997, finishing either a postgraduate degree (Honours, Masters or PhD) or LLB conjoint degree, and studying full-time at a New Zealand university.

For information and application forms, please contact: The EEO Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Private Bag 18 901, Wellington; phone (04) 494 8288, fax (04) 494 8508. Or see the Scholarships Office at your university.

The closing date for applications is 31 March 1997