



# News from TNQAB!

July-Sept 2018

## Tonga National Qualifications and Accreditation Board

### Industry Training Advisory Committee (ITAC) Tourism



Right: Representatives from Tourism Industry, Regulating Authorities and Ministry of Tourism with staff of TNQAB in its first workshop training for on roles and responsibilities of ITAC—Tourism

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ITAC Tourism in Tonga is made up representatives from the Tourism industry from the main island as well as the outer islands who are hotel owners, resort owners with relevant knowledge, experience, qualifications in the field of Tourism. The composition ensures that it is representative of the country and the relevant industry which it represents.

This was the first training workshop to the roles and responsibilities of the ITAC—Tourism. This ITAC group is the first to be established in Tonga to validate seven national qualifications currently developed by the Ministry of Tourism. This development is funded by the Australian Government under the Tonga Skills project. It is hope that two or three of these qualifications can be completed this year so that they can be offered for delivery next year.

We are grateful for the financial assistance from the Australian government. The presence of the Acting Chief Executive Officer for the Ministry of Tourism (Left below) shows the Ministry's keen interest and desire for these national qualifications to be implemented soon.



## Quality Audits

### International Teacher Education Program (ITEP)

The ITEP program began with six Missionary Couples assigned to six schools of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints in the Pacific— two in Tonga, two in Samoa, one in Fiji and one in Kiribati. These professional education missionaries were called to serve as adjunct faculty for the School of Education at BYUH. They offered authorized course work and provided supervision for teacher training certification.

The ITEP program was designed to meet teacher registration in Tonga. It enrolls only teachers from various campuses of the Church in Tonga. It provides a pathway to gain Bachelor at Brigham Young University in Hawaii.

An audit site visit was conducted to International Teacher Education Program (ITEP) in July 2018. This was to confirm maintaining of standards for accreditation.



*The audit panel consisted of Dr Mo'ale 'Otonuku from the University of the South Pacific, Tonga Campus, Ms. Liuaki Fusitu'a, Dean—Tonga Institute of Education (Front Row—2nd and 3rd) and Ms Fololina Ikani from TNQAB (Back Row—2nd from left)*

In addition to the basic purpose of ITEP to teach education courses to teachers, ITEP has become the direct link between the schools in the South Pacific and BYUH. This opens opportunities and funnels information to and from the Pacific schools. ITEP missionaries have become influences for good in the lives of these students. They provide support and encouragement along with professional guidance, counseling and direction. These missionaries have also become a major resource for local educational administrators and leaders.





## Accreditation ... in progress

### Programmes with Provisional Accreditation

Pouono Campus of TTI Certificate in Marine Multi-skill L 2

Pouono Campus of TTI Certificate in Electrical Level 3

TTI Diploma in Music Level 5

TTI Certificate in Information Technology Level 4

QSINAH Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology Level 5

TIHE Certificate in IT (IS) Level 4

TIHE Certificate in IT (CS) Level 4

TIHE Diploma in Hospitality (Tour operation) Level 5

TIHE Advanced Diploma in IT (IS) Level 6

TIHE Advanced Diploma in IT (CS) Level 6

### Programmes Accreditation ... in progress

TIST Certificate in Plumbing (Trade) Level 4

TIST Certificate in Welding Level 3

TIST Certificate in Panel Beating & Spray Painting Level 4

TIOE Graduate Certificate in Education Level 7

CUP Master of Forensic Information Technology

CUP Bachelor of Computing and Information Sciences  
(Network and Security)

TTI Diploma in Information System Level 5

TTI Advanced Diploma in Information Technology Level 6

TTI Certificate in Information System Level 4

TTI Certificate in Information System Level 5

## Site visits—Tupou Tertiary Institute

Programme Accreditation site visit was conducted for Tupou Tertiary Institute Diploma in Information Technology Level 5. The IT expert in the panel team was Mr. Maletino Hola, former lecturer in Information Technology at the University of the South Pacific and current Director, Information Communication Technology Board in Tonga.



The Dean—Academic, Ms. Ofa Va'enuku and Julie (picture left) were working hard in the preparation of the documents and liaising with TNQAB officer for the site visit. The IT Programme Manager, Mr Finau Fakasii'eiki helped with the tour of the facilities in the School of Information Technology.

We sincerely thank the Director of Tupou Tertiary Institute for her leadership and continued support to ensure that the programmes delivered by the institute are accredited.



## Registration...

### In :Progress

Christ University in Pacific was offered provisional registration for one year . A panel of experts has conducted site visit in June this year to confirm its eligibility to be accredited as a university.

The outcome is yet to be confirmed upon satisfactorily completing the requirements from the panel team.

### Full Registration

Liahona High School (LHS) was registered as a training provider. LHS would like to give recognition to its technical vocational and training programs including sewing and cookery.

Matapa Training Centre offer training to its workers in carpentry on the construction site as well as using the church facilities of the LDS church at Tatakamotonga.

## University of the South Pacific—Quality Audit Workshop



*Left:*

*USP Tonga Campus Director, Dr Seu'ula Johannson-Fua Fonua and Dr Sereana Kibuibola from US-PAccreditation Unit, Suva-Fiji (Front Row: 2nd & 3rd from right).*

*Below:*

*Staff of USP Tonga Campus during the quality audit training workshop.*

A quality audit training was also provided to the University of the South Pacific—Tonga campus in preparation for its forthcoming audit next year.

Dr Sereana Kibuibola and her team from the Accreditation Unit of the University's main campus in Suva attended the training to be informed of the requirements and the preparation that needs to be in place. The Acting Director of USP, Tonga Campus , Dr Seu'ula Johannson-Fua Fonua assured that she will undertake a self evaluation of the campus before the actual audit next year.





## Quality Audit Panel Training

A group of experts received training from TNQAB to be able to deliver the roles and responsibilities of reviewers effectively.

The Quality Audit Panel training was delivered in July to prepare potential panel members to undertake the roles and responsibilities of audit panel members. Participants were selected from various industries and institutions.



## Welcome Back!

It was great to welcome back Mr Kisione Manu (Right) after completing a Master of Education (Tertiary) from the University of Massey, in New Zealand.

Mr. Kisione is a Senior Analyst and is responsible for registration of universities, degree program approval and accreditation.



A few universities that have expressed interest to be established in Tonga include the Commonwealth Vocational University and King's International University.

The Board has set the standards and criteria for registration of universities and guidelines for degree program approval and accreditation. Providers who are interested to deliver degree programmes are required to work together with Mr. Kisione to ensure that these criteria are well understood.

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