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Twinning Libraries

Changes to Telephone and Fax Numbers

Is your twin library aware that the telephone and fax numbers for their contact library have changed recently? All twins should ensure that their Pacific twin library knows of these changes as soon as possible.

Difficulties for Twins in Times of Budget Cuts

Some twin libraries are having trouble keeping up assistance to their Pacific twin in the current financial climate. However, do not underestimate the value to your twin library of a superseded citator, for example. If you feel you cannot afford to send a lot of material, a padded bag with a citator and a couple of other superseded titles will be enough to keep your twinning arrangement worthwhile. Have a supply of addressed padded bags ready so you don't take long to send off a few items at regular intervals.

You don't have to send off a lot of material. Aim to fax a list of twelve titles once a year for confirmation by your twin and encourage them to let you know what particular title they need. Sometimes you will have what they want - and it might be the only book on the subject of that week's case, i.e. invaluable!

Fiji

USP Cataloguing Position

The University of the South Pacific Library (Suva, Fiji) wishes to hear from law librarians who might like to work in Fiji for up to 12 months in 1997.

Background: The USP Library in Suva has in its general and specialised Pacific collections some 1500 monograph and 110 serial law related titles classified by LC. In 1994 a separate law collection was established for students starting the new LLB programme. Most of that collection (approximately 2000 titles) has already been transferred to the University's main Law Library in Port Vila, Vanuatu, unclassified and with only brief catalogue entries. Full cataloguing and classification by LCMoys has begun but is hampered by lack of Bibliofile and online ABN access. By early 1997 both campuses should have both.

In 1997, about 200 monograph and 100 serial titles will remain in Suva, largely for Year 1 LLB students. These titles are also unclassified and have only brief catalogue records. The pre-weeding estimate for Suva is as follows:

Monographs (mostly copy cataloguing) : 1700

Pacific serials (mostly original cataloguing) : 75

Other serials : 135

Total = 1910 titles

Total titles including Vila estimates = up to 1400.

Cataloguing in the USP Vila Law Library will continue. The Law Library (Suva) plans to integrate the general collection law material with the separate collection; and to classify the integrated collection by LCMoys.

Requirements and Responsibilities

The interested person should be an experienced law cataloguer familiar with LCMoys. He or she would be assisted by a full-time library assistant and a part-time student assistant and would have the following responsibilities:

- Manage and undertake the Law Library classification and cataloguing project in Suva

- Manage the Law Library in Suva and advise and assist Law staff and first year Law students in Law Library use
- Liaise with the Law Library in Vila and provide cataloguing and classification assistance wherever possible; this could involve some visits to Vila
- Train USP Library staff in cataloguing and classifying law materials
- Advise and assist where possible in developing the collection for 5th Year courses offered in Suva in 1998 by USP's Institute of Justice and Applied Legal Studies

Salary and conditions are to be established. If you are interested send your curriculum vitae to the University Librarian USP, PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji. Fax: 619 300 830 and/or email the University Librarian (Williams_E) or Bess Flores (Flores_B) @usp.ac.fj [Bess Flores, Librarian, Law, USP, is retiring in February 1997]

Tonga

Opening of New Courthouse in Vavau

On 4 November 1996 (Constitution Day in Tonga), His Majesty the King of Tonga opened a new courthouse in Vavau. Situated in Tonga's northern group of islands, the new building replaces a very old one which was destroyed a couple of years ago.

Vavau, some 200 km from the very flat main island group of Tongatapu, almost seems like another country. Port of Refuge, a fjord-like deep water harbour, runs in between steep cliffs to the capital Neiafu. The new court building stands here. It is said to be quite a beautiful building, with classical-style pillars and a lot of glass surfaces

Although the building has been completed, it will not be operational for a little while. It still needs fitout and furnishings, shelves etc. It is hoped to be able to have a small library too. This will be

quite essential, as the judges fly to Vavau from Tonga in tiny planes. Some barely hold two people, and the "big" flight takes 16. There is never room to carry heavy boxes of books with them.

A few donations of books have already been given to this new library. The Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department has promised *All England Law Reports* and *Halsbury's Laws of England* 4th ed. An unexpected gift has come from Ms Janet Worth of Adelaide, who has given her father's set of *Australian Law Journal and Reports*. Some texts have been donated by practitioners in Canberra.

The Government of Tonga is grateful for these generous gifts. The donors will be happy to know, not only that the judiciary and lawyers in Tonga are very appreciative, but also that their books will be "living" in one of the most beautiful places in the world

Aircraft breakdown changes PILOM venue

The 1996 meeting of Pacific Islands Law Officers was to be held in Tarawa, Kiribati, from 15 to 17 October. However, the Marshall Islands airline's single aircraft broke down, and was unavailable for a week, stranding most delegates in Fiji

A hurried re-arrangement of schedules and the concurrence of the hosts in Kiribati who were stranded without any delegates, saw a Committee of the Whole convened in Fiji under the outgoing chair of PILOM - Vanuatu. The delegates who were already there convened in Nadi, on Wednesday 16 October, at the Tanoa International Hotel.

Country Reports, draft reports of two committees (Law and Order and CLE), and drafts of a regional model Extradition Law were considered on Wednesday and Thursday morning. Fiji's paper on the rights of indigenous peoples was circulated

Four members of the Kiribati delegation including the chair, Attorney-General Michael Takabwebwe, were able to arrive in Nadi via Air Nauru on Thursday afternoon. The full formal business of the meeting commenced with a keynote address by Sir Kenneth Keith.

One of the main agenda items was the consideration of the separation of powers - an important topic in the Pacific Islands. Discussion centred on the setting of judicial salaries and terms and conditions, and the need to educate the people on the relationship between the three arms of government. The effect of globalisation on village community life and the necessity to strike a balance between custom and heritage, and the need for courts to make decisions involving constitutional interpretation was discussed.

A paper on constitutional developments in Tokelau was presented by NZ.

PILOM recommended through the CLE committee, that the offer by the International Bar Association and Australia and New Zealand to help with training in advocacy skills be accepted. It also asked the IBA to facilitate placements for regional practitioners to gain experience in litigation, international contracts and constitutional law. The offer by Australia to provide a secretariat for the CLE committee was accepted.

The progress made by the Law and Order Committee towards the implementation of the Honiara Declaration on Law Enforcement Co-operation was noted.

Model laws on anti-money laundering were considered, as well as mutual assistance and extradition matters.

The USP asked that its law degree be accepted as qualification to practice by all countries in the region.

Although not in the official record of this unusual PILOM, many delegates were enthusiastic about the help they had been receiving through the library twinning program. Particular mention was made by Tonga of the help received from Monash law library.

Lorraine Weinman

Attorney-General's Department
Canberra

Vanuatu

Opening of New USP Library Building

The new library, including the Law Library of the University of the South Pacific, Vila Campus, Vanuatu, was declared open in a ceremony on Wednesday 23 October 1996.

The President and Prime Minister, among others, spoke at the opening. The speeches were followed by a series of representative dances from students of the region.

The Library was built with aid supplied by China. The building is already well filled and there is no chance of an extension for at least 12 months. The Law Librarian, John Hutley, being the senior librarian at the Vila campus, has responsibility for the general library as well as the Law Library.

May's Parliamentary Practice in Demand!

Two urgent requests for the latest edition of *May's Parliamentary Practice* were received by the Attorney-General's Department in October. Lorraine Weinman managed to scrounge copies: one was rushed to Tonga, the other to Vanuatu.