

# UniVois



## SINU VC officially welcomes PVCA and PVCC as they ink agreement with SINU

The Vice Chancellor of the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Professor Transform Aqorau formally welcomes two newly appointed Pro Vice Chancellors at SINU.

Prof.Aqorau in an official circulated email congratulated and welcomed Dr.Eric Katovai as the new Pro Vice Chancellor Academic PVCA and Dr.William Parairato as the new Vice Chancellor Corporate (PVCC)

“I am delighted to extend my warmest congratulations on reaching an agreement regarding the terms of your contracts. It is with great enthusiasm and anticipation that I welcome you both formally to the Solomon Islands National University.”

“Your commitment to joining our institution is a moment of immense pride for us all, and I am deeply humbled to have individuals of your calibre assuming the roles of Pro Vice Chancellors at our National University.”

“As we begin this significant chapter, I would like to invite you both to commence your work with us immediately, ensuring a smooth transition as you step into these pivotal roles.”

“This introduction will mark the beginning of a journey together, dedicated to the pursuit of academic excellence and the advancement of knowledge for the benefit of our students, staff, and the nation.”

“I encourage each of us to reflect on the meaningful work we undertake here at SINU.”

“As a united team, we have the capacity to create substantial impact, not only within our university community but for the Solomon Islands as a whole.”

“As we embark on this journey together, I am reminded of the words of Nelson Mandela, who said, “It always seems impossible until it’s done.”

“Let us persevere, remain bold in our ambitions, and remember that there are no limits to what we can achieve only the vast expanse of opportunity waiting to be explored.”

The signing ceremony took place at the Kukum Campus in the presence of the SINU Chair of Council Dr.Morgan Wairiu witnessed by SINU Staff.



The new PVCC Dr.William Parairato and SINU Council Chair Dr.Morgan Wairiu show the signed copy of the new PVCC contract .



The new PVCA Dr.Eric Katovai and SINU Council Chair Dr.Morgan Wairiu show the signed copy of the new PVCA contract.

“The positions of Pro Vice Chancellors are far from ordinary, and we will ensure that the ceremony conveys the respect and esteem your appointments deserve.”

The PVCA and PVCC on Friday 15 November formally signed their respective contracts at SINU followed by a formal introduction to all SINU staff in a cocktail organised by the office of the Vice Chancellor.

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## SINU hosts Mini Seminar Showcasing PhD Research Proposals from Aspiring Academic Staff

The Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies, Solomon Islands National University (SINU) recently held a mini seminar to support academic staff from the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (FAFF), and Faculty of Education and Humanities (FEH), who are aspiring to advance their studies as of next year.

This event was marked by a strong spirit of academic dedication and collaboration, provided staff a platform to present their research interests and PhD proposals to an esteemed panel and their peers.

The Director of Research and Postgraduate Studies, Associate Professor Dr. Hugo Bugoro, applauded the presenters for their commitment and enthusiasm, given the short notice to prepare for the event.

In particular, the wide range of research topics that were presented, from sustainable agricultural practices and marine resource management to innovative teaching methodologies, indicates the university's multisectoral strength and commitment to address some of these ongoing and common challenges facing the Solomon Islands and the broader Pacific region.

Dr. Bugoro further alluded that the diversity in research proposals holds promising implications for the university's role as it aspires to be a leader in regional scholarship and development.

"This is more than an academic exercise," he said.

"Each research project has the potential to make a tangible difference in our communities."

The seminar was moderated by a panel which consists of Dr. Hugo Bugoro and Dr. Lindon Havimana from SINU, Dr. Arno Pascht from the National University of Vanuatu (NUV), Professor Emeritus Jean-Marie Fotsing from University of New Caledonia (UNC) and Ms. Felicity Nilwo, PhD candidate at University of New Caledonia (UNC).

Overall, the panel was impressed by the standard and quality of the topics and the presenters.

The panellists encouraged the presenters to pursue their research goals with rigor and passion. All the presenters are now pooled together in the "Common Project" which is a collaboration between two young emerging universities, SINU and NUV.

SINU is dedicated to advancing research excellence and supporting academic staff in their pursuit of global educational opportunities that can contribute to positive change in Solomon Islands and the Pacific region.

The seminar concluded with the panel selecting three standout proposals to be presented in Family Farming, Lifestyle and Health (FALAH) conference in Vanuatu proposed to be held in mid-November.

SINU is committed to nurturing research that delivers impactful solutions and supports the professional growth of its academic community.

**Participants of the Mini-Seminar. From L to R. Ms. Felicity Nilwo, UNC; Mr. Carlos Hiro, SINU; Ms. Lovelyn Otoiasi, SINU; Mr. Jimmy Malefodola, SINU, Prof. Emeritus. Jean-Marie Fotsing, UNC; Dr. Arno Pascht, NUV; Mr. Calvin Ngatulu, SINU; Dr. Hugo Bugoro, SINU; Mr. Lawrence Atu, SINU; Mr. Danny Shadrech, SINU; Mr. Collin Gereniu, SINU; Mr. George Horoasia, SINU and Dr. Lindon Havimana, SINU**





## Dr. Eric Katovai, Pro Vice Chancellor - Academic of SINU, Honoured Guest at Jones Adventist College Graduation

Dr. Eric Katovai, Pro Vice Chancellor - Academic at Solomon Islands National University (SINU), attended the Form 6 graduation ceremony at Jones Adventist College (JAC) on November 3 as the distinguished Guest of Honour. The ceremony, celebrated under the theme “Through Challenges, With God, We Conquer,” highlighted the students’ dedication and resilience throughout their academic journey.

Dr. Katovai extended warm congratulations to the graduating class, reminding them that with faith and perseverance, no challenge is too great to overcome.

In the evening following the ceremony, Dr. Katovai engaged with students and staff, sharing insights on the evolving landscape of education in the Solomon Islands and SINU’s strategic vision to become a premier institution in the Pacific region and beyond. As Pro Vice Chancellor - Academic, he outlined SINU’s roadmap for achieving this ambitious goal, spotlighting opportunities for regional influence and global recognition.

He encouraged students and staff to embrace this transformative period at SINU, reinforcing the university’s commitment to accessible and inclusive higher education.

Dr. Katovai also introduced the SINU University Preparatory College as an alternative pathway for students who may

not transition directly into Forms 4, 6, or 7. This program enables students to meet entry requirements for various university programs. During his visit, he distributed application forms and brochures detailing the university’s five faculties, inspiring students to explore SINU’s diverse academic offerings.

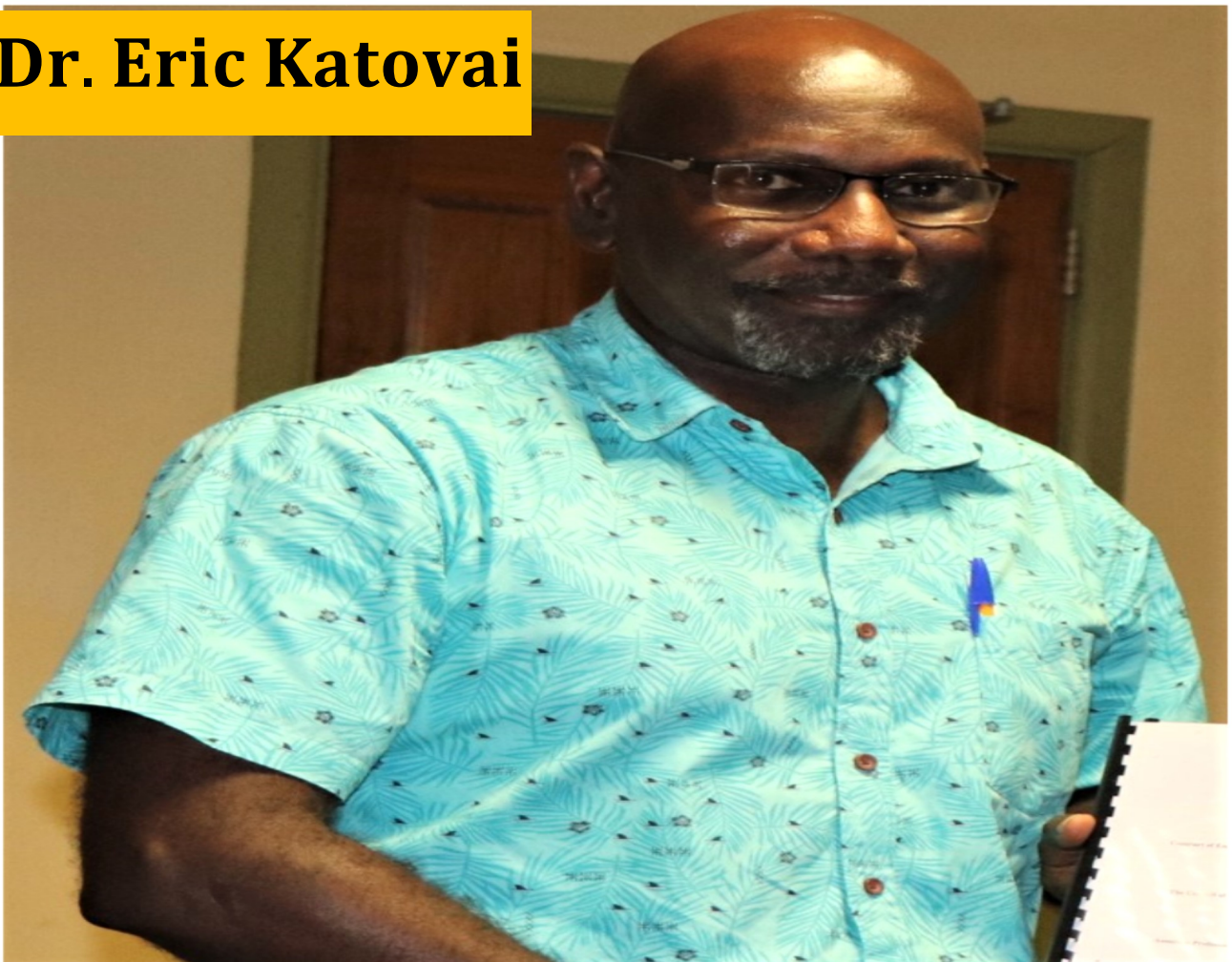
Additionally, Dr. Katovai’s visit presented an opportunity to discuss the potential establishment of a Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) centre on the JAC campus.

This initiative aims to expand educational access to surrounding communities and is currently in the preliminary phase, with plans for comprehensive assessments to ensure it meets community needs.

Dr. Katovai called on fellow SINU academics to actively engage with schools and local communities, underscoring the importance of community service as a foundational pillar of academia.

“SINU must serve as a symbol of hope,” he emphasized, highlighting the university’s commitment to building strong connections across the Solomon Islands. He expressed a vision for SINU to foster engagement at all levels from government and NGO partnerships to impactful collaborations with schools and communities in the provinces.

### Dr. Eric Katovai





## Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Grateful for BRED Bank Solomon Islands' Generous Donation of Server Equipment.

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) proudly acknowledges and expresses heartfelt gratitude to BRED Bank Solomon Islands for their remarkable donation of server hardware. This contribution represents a significant milestone in enhancing SINU's technological infrastructure, crucial for delivering quality education to students across the Solomon Islands.

At a ceremonial handover last Tuesday, representatives from SINU and BRED Bank highlighted the shared commitment to advancing education through innovative technology. Dr. William Parairato, Pro Vice-Chancellor Corporate of SINU, received the equipment on behalf of the university, while Mr. Alipate Suguturaga, Head of Retail at BRED Bank Solomon Islands, presented it on behalf of the bank.

In his remarks, Dr. Parairato underlined the importance of this donation, this is not merely an investment in physical infrastructure but a profound investment in the future of our students, academic staff, and the broader community.

It positions SINU to better equip our learners with essential skills in this digital age.”

The donated servers will significantly boost SINU's data center capabilities, enabling enhanced support for academic pro-

grams, administrative efficiency, online learning, and advanced research initiatives.

This development is set to provide students and staff with expanded access to digital resources crucial for academic and professional excellence.

Mr. Suguturaga emphasized BRED Bank's commitment to social responsibility and the pivotal role of partnerships in national progress, “this donation is part of our unwavering commitment to fostering educational development in the Solomon Islands.

By supporting SINU, we are investing in the next generation of leaders, professionals, and innovators who will drive our nation forward.

The partnership between SINU and BRED Bank serves as an inspiring example of collaboration between the private and public sectors, aimed at shaping a digitally skilled and empowered workforce.

SINU continues to lead in providing high-quality education and technical training, and with the support of partners like BRED Bank, it remains steadfast in preparing future leaders for a dynamic and technology-driven world.



Representatives from BRED Bank, including Mr. Alipate Suguturaga, Head of Retail, handed over the server hardware to Dr. William Parairato, Pro Vice-Chancellor Corporate of SINU, with Mr. Philip Valea from the ICT Department serving as a witness.

# Staff Profile

**Name:** Lydia Gamutu

**Province:** Isabel

**Age:** 50

**Work station:** Ranadi Campus

**Department:** Solomon Islands Maritime College,  
FST

**Job title:** Secretary

**Qualification:** Diploma of Business Studies

**How long have you been working here?** 12 years  
(2013-2024)

**Tell us about your job:** My job serves as the first point of contact for clients and visitors. In my case my clients are students, staff of SINU and the general public specifically in dealing with Maritime training.

**What do you like about SINU and your job?**

I like SINU because it recognize my work at SIMC base on the assessment made by my immediate Supervisor. With various short courses that SINU provides for me, it motivates me with my job to work effectively and efficiently in this environment.



## About Us:



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[www.sinu.edu.sb](http://www.sinu.edu.sb)  
[www.facebook.com/SINU.edu](https://www.facebook.com/SINU.edu)

For Newsletter inquiries, contact our Marketing & Promotions Office on:

Phone: 42600 Ext 252 or 42631  
E-mail: [pro@sinu.edu.sb](mailto:pro@sinu.edu.sb)

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Solomon Islands National University (SINU) is the Prime and ONLY National University of Solomon Islands.

Founded in 2013, SINU is striving to be one of the Best Education and Research Institute in the Region.

Our VISION: "A quality National University, raising Standards of education and applied research in the

Pacific Region."

Our Mission: "Championing the pursuit of knowledge, skills, academic inquiry and applied research to transform lives through higher education and training, inclusive of diverse communities, while providing relevant solutions for the Solomon Islands.