

CROP Library, Archives and Information Management working group meeting

24 August 2009

University of the South Pacific

In attendance: Joan Yee (USP), Samuela Nakalevu (SPC), Peter Murgatroyd (SPREP), Kesaia Vilsoni (PIFS), Dorene Naidu (SOPAC), Eleanor Kleiber (SPC), Opeta Alefaio (Fiji Archives)

- No minutes found from last meeting (2008) – PM apologises
- Collaboration between CLAIM and development of USP library programme
  - Pam Bidwell redeveloping the USP library diploma courses
  - Also suggesting a degree level course
  - PM: inquired as to the possibility of combining IT and communications with library degree
  - PM: suggested the need for a needs survey, including CROP librarians.
  - ACTION: request that Pam ask input from all CLAIM librarians
- Update on collaboration between PM and Libby Cass on report suggesting formalization of CLAIM.
  - ACTION: keep objective that there is a formalized structure
- Update on the possibility of CLAIM librarians having USP email id's to obtain access to proxy USP databases
  - JY asked Ester, but waiting
  - ACTION: JY will follow up with Ester
- Libraries being included in the Pac Plan digital strategy
  - ACTION: CLAIM urges the Director General of the SPC to address content issues in the regional digital strategy, particularly to provide adequate resourcing to integrate content and knowledge products with a particular focus on Pacific relevant information. This will require the provision of staffing and support.
- Outcome of the RIF and impact on SOPAC and SPC libraries
  - ACTION: CLAIM endorses the view that the RIF outcome and the leaders decision to rationalize SOPAC function into a GeoScience division with in SPC offers an opportunity to strengthen information and library services in the region, and to harmonise and provide seamless access to unique and invaluable knowledge resources developed and maintained by SOPAC.
  - ACTION: CLAIM acknowledges the contribution that the SOPAC Library and Information Services have made to the regional knowledge base and strongly expresses the recommendation that this invaluable knowledge resource not be diminished and that every effort be made to retain the institutional knowledge and experience to support ongoing development of this important regional resource collection.

- ACTION: CLAIM would like to acknowledge and thank the SOPAC library services officer for her valuable contribution to the regional knowledge base and the CLAIM working group.
- Access to official information and governance issues in the region
  - Update on Forum/UNDP FOI efforts for Nauru and Solomon Islands
    - Workshops done in partnerships with PARBICA and the outcome was positive
    - These connections between the FOI efforts and PARBICA are a direct result of CLAIM
    - A statement from Nauru was submitted to the Pacific Plan about archives and records.
      - OA and EK submitted a draft, and Nauru based their submission on this
    - Paper noted that records management is important to achieve good governance, and should be an integral part of initiatives under the good governance pillar.
    - PM: in that case, an internationally recruited records manager should be based at PIFS.
    - EK: disappointment that the submission did not result in much change.
- Rotation of chair for CLAIM
- PM nominated EK, seconded by KV.
  - EK accepted.