

Editorial

Dedicated to the Memory of Late Fr. John Bonato

It is with great pleasure to welcome you all to Volume 30 of The South Pacific Journal of Natural and Applied Sciences (SPJNAS) published through **CSIRO** Publishing, Australia. This volume is dedicated specially to the memory of **Late Fr. John Bonato**, Senior Lecturer in Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Technology and Environment, The University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji.

As it had been in the past, the primary purpose of the SPJNAS is to promote and communicate original, high quality research results amongst researchers in a timely fashion and in the most accessible manner. Without compromising quality, the SPJNAS has been able to maintain its commitment and standard by thoroughly channeling all submissions through a rigorous peer-reviewing process.

The editorial board of the SPJNAS consists of researchers and experts in the respective fields it promotes, specifically in agriculture, biology, biotechnology, biochemistry, chemistry, climate change, computing, food, information, mathematics, physics, statistics, engineering and technology. Moreover, experimental and theoretical researches together with diverse applications are always considered for publication by the SPJNAS.

The SPJNAS has survived throughout the years and without a doubt it has grown to become more accessible through and to a wider readership since it became fully online through **CSIRO** Publishing, Australia, to which we are always grateful for their support, professionalism, and expertise. As such, it is our continuing effort to make sure that we reach out and communicate to the broader scientific community and at a global level.

This volume of the SPJNAS contains one review article and eight full papers where half of them are on the region, specifically Fiji. In particular, it ranges from studies of mahogany plantation to photosynthetic rate and biochemical composition of green algae, flood hazard modeling, and soil analysis. On a slightly different scale, we also have interesting articles on optimum allocation in multivariate stratified sampling, and application of fractal box dimensions in predicting the behaviour of colliding sawdust particles in sawmilling, to name a few.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the authors, the associate editors and especially the reviewers for their time, patience, and kind cooperation in maintaining high standard of the journal. I look forward to working together with you in the future.

Last but not the least, I wish to acknowledge: the Chair and Editor-in-Chief, Associate Professor Surendra Prasad, for guidance and expert advice on 'Being an Editor'; Mr. Vimlesh Chand for taking the time out from his PhD busy schedule to assist in formatting the papers; and Mr. Mohammed Sheik of DMCA Office/Development for assisting with the cover page.

Best wishes for the year 2013.

Robin S. Havea

Senior Lecturer in Mathematics
Editor, SPJNAS Volume 30