



Conch Shell

Communicating good news from PTCEE
Pacific Theological College Education by Extension



Extension Celebrations !



February 2016

Make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1. 5-8

CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

01	Amos Taitusi Bici	Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu
02	Kafi Manao	Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu
03	Temalesi V. Nasaroo	Methodist Church in Fiji & Rotuma
04	John Timani	Anglican Church of Melanesia (<i>in absentia</i>)
05	Roland Waki	South Seas Evangelical Church (<i>in absentia</i>)

DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

01	Elizabeth Leasiolagi	Congregational Christian Church in Am. Samoa
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What a joy to celebrate with Education by Extension students at PTC graduation this year. See their names on the official programme entry above. Not everyone can make it to a PTC graduation of course, and nor is it expected. PTCEE students are like the seeds scattered across the good soil of many islands and we look forward just as much to seeing some photos of brothers John Timani and Roland Waki at their local celebrations. We'll certainly include them in Conch



Shell. Just as we're grateful for these graduation pictures sent by our brother Pastor Solomon Bebe serving the Churches of Christ, Vanuatu. Wonderful!

To God be the glory.

The Pacific Theological College



48th Graduation Ceremony
12th November, 2015
at 4.30p.m.

Venue: Fofola e Fala: Havea-Latukefu
PTC
VEIUTO, SUVA



God so loved the WORLD! PTCEE celebrates global partnership

Dear Partners-in-Learning!

Director's letter from the Revd Dr Val Ogden.

Bula from PTCEE! How does it sound to your ears to be called a 'partner-in-learning' rather than an 'extension student'. Do you like it? Years ago I used to do some writing for a Christian Education publication called *Partners-in-Learning* and as I think about and interact with PTCEE students across the region, it seems like a good description for us. You have chosen to partner with us here at PTCEE by registering for and committing to the courses. There are many distance education options in the market these days and you've chosen PTCEE. Thank you! In turn, we partner with you through providing the books, resources, support, marking and assessment, leading eventually to Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees, we hope. That's the functional aspect of the partnership. But it goes much deeper than that.

When we're partners-in-learning through *theological* education; attempting to pursue God's wisdom and ways, we want to give and receive as much as we can from each other. Why? Because a human 'partner-in-learning' may be God's chosen and most effective instrument of communication. Maybe I'm struggling with the concepts and insights found in books, articles and websites, but when I lift my eyes from the paper or screen and discuss them 'in the flesh' with others, my eyes are opened. God has used another person's eyes, mind and voice as the key to our own, renewed understanding.



Here's someone I greatly respect as a theological 'partner in learning' over the years. Rev Taniela Balenaikorodawa studied in 2008-9 for a Masters degree at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham in the UK when I was on the staff of that College. As a Fijian Methodist minister, (most recently teaching at Davuilevu Theological College), he brought fascinating insights to us, his British 'partners in learning'. Now Talatala Dan with his wife Kasanita and boys Nacanieli and Apisai are here on the Pacific Theological College campus as he embarks on PhD research. (Maybe he'll mark some PTCEE assignments for us if time allows!) We asked our long-time 'partner-in-learning' for some considered thoughts for PTCEE students from his experience in global, theological education. Here's what he said:

Well , first of all, I really encourage you to keep going. Then I would say, don't try to do PTCEE all alone. Talk to your mentor. Find others to discuss issues and ideas with. I'm greatly in favour of education in our Churches through **participatory learning**. Sometimes in the Pacific we don't understand who we are and what we believe. We have had mass evangelism but something is still missing and we even leave our churches to search for it. If we were more committed about doing theological education together, using models of 'taoia' and 'talanoa', that would help us in our search for what's missing and give us great confidence as Pacific Christians. Not just locally, but globally and ecumenically too

The Revd Taniela Balenaikorodawa



Growing, growing...

Bachelor of Divinity by Extension



Three new courses have been released for the BD by Extension programme since the last Conch Shell. B50BD04 Ethical Principles and B20BD03 Introduction to the Study of the Prophets, written by former PTC faculty members Dr Jack Hill and Dr Anthony Rees. Also B10FD01 Academic Skills which draws on expertise from the current Academic Dean Professor Holger Szesnat and has been compiled by PTCEE's Director Revd Dr Val Ogden. Current Faculty are busily writing in their areas of scholarship to bring fresh and informative Pacific-contextual material to the table in 2016, with new foundations courses in exegesis and ministry well on the way.

PTCEE Administrator Salome with the new course collection

Quality assurance? Good to know...

All PTCEE BD courses are 100 nominal learning hours, should be completed in 10 weeks, and are developed to the quality assurance standards in place through the South Pacific Association of Theological Schools (SPATS) within the Pacific Qualifications Framework (PQF). An ordinary Bachelor Degree, whether taken residentially or in distance mode, is set at level 7. Our courses work to these requirements and our students need to demonstrate the necessary academic skills, such as

- critical, analytical and independent thinking
- advanced theoretical and technical knowledge in your discipline
- the ability to think through and write about complex and changing realities
- self-discipline and the ability to plan, co-ordinate, direct and deliver your own work

Are you interested in studying to this level? Can you put your intellect and your faith through the 'refiner's fire' of an exciting but demanding theology degree? Something to pray about? Talk to us!



May we introduce...

..the latest recruit to PTCEE's Advisory Committee? Alanieta Lesuma-Fatiaki has been working at the Centre for Flexible Learning (CFL) in University of the South Pacific since 1999 as a Course Development Assistant. In 2007 she was promoted to the position of Instructional Designer and has been in this position ever since. She holds a BA degree in Geography and Tourism Studies from USP and she has been over the years pursuing graduate studies towards a Masters in Instructional Design and Technology from the Open University Malaysia.

Ala is also a Quality Matters (QM) certified reviewer of online and blended courses. Her interests range from effective design of courses for optimum success of learners with use of available technology, to sustainable approaches of workplace training and professional development for the 21st century worker. She is passionate about Open Education and in particular looking at how Open Educational Resources (OER) can be an effective vehicle through which human livelihoods can be improved for the betterment of society. She is married to Tevita who hails from the island of Rotuma and is mother to three children;

Ala — we're delighted that you've found time to serve on PTCEE's Advisory Committee. Thank you. We're already benefitting greatly from your experience and skills.

And how was 2015 generally at PTCEE?

Giving thanks for... 49 courses sent out to active students; 116 assignments assessed and passed; 40 courses completed overall; 37 new enrolments (averaging 3-4 a month) and another 9 since the start of 2016. Lots of interest in the BD by Extension. Much to praise God for.

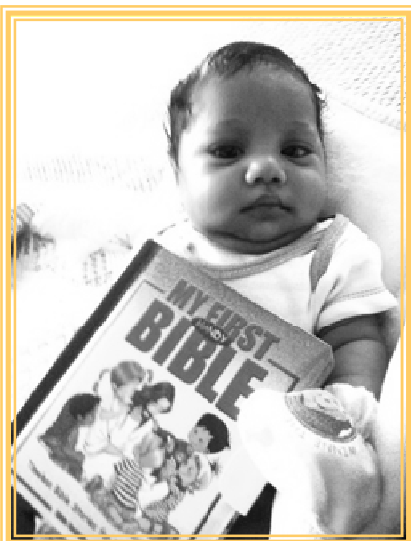
Concerned about... too many inactive students on the books; slow progress for some; evidence of laziness and cheating in some work, eg. copying straight from internet sites. Can we improve in these areas? For the glory of God as well as for academic standards? What will YOU achieve in 2016?

Looking forward to... more BD start-ups and courses being developed; visits and communication with students in the region; revising and revitalising Certificate and Diploma courses for the present age; continuing to promote Theology for All for Life.

Smiling because... of Crystal Valerie Tuilomani Kalouniviti, PTCEE's youngest student. Naturally. Because Mum is PTCEE's administrator! As the Temple teachers said of Jesus

All who heard him were amazed
at his intelligent answers.

Luke 2.47



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We'd love to hear from you in 2016

**And don't forget!
we're on the
WEB
www.ptc.ac.fj/ptcee
FACEBOOK
Ptcee Suva
& TWITTER
[@PTCEDbyEx](https://twitter.com/PTCEDbyEx)**