

# PROJECT PTCEE

## Pacific Theological College Education by Extension

### Vision

Developing the present, print based PTCEE programme into a flexible, adaptable learning platform for the present age, able to serve a wide constituency of learners and their needs across Oceania

### Context

The Pacific Theological College Education by Extension programme (PTCEE) is the non-residential, distance-learning provision of the Pacific Theological College. [www.ptc.ac.fj/ptcee](http://www.ptc.ac.fj/ptcee). We believe in Theology for All for Life. The residential College was established in 1965 and offers further theological education to PhD level, primarily for those in formal, recognized ministries, nominated and supported by their sending Churches from across the Pacific. A distance learning programme, in conjunction with the Pacific Conference of Churches, began in 1989 and evolved into the programme we know today, for which support is sought.

PTCEE first registered students in 1996. As of August 2017, the database shows that 903 students have taken courses at Certificate, Diploma and Bachelors level through PTCEE, from diverse backgrounds across the Pacific islands and Pacific diaspora. Learners represent a broad, ecumenical variety of churches and traditions, span a wide age spectrum and bring a richness of indigenous wisdom, life experience and differing achievements in formal education. They study at home, in their own environment and at their own speed, through accessible, achievable, accredited courses. The nomination of a local mentor is encouraged, as are local study support groups, to avoid PTCEE becoming a dispiriting, solo learning experience. Pacific ways are communal ways. Certificate courses have open entry to anyone who can read, write and express their ideas reasonably well in the English language. Everyone is welcome to enrol on the Certificate and test the waters, or to pursue selected courses for their own interest. Anyone who wants to expand their knowledge and wisdom about God, Church and World and can commit to regular, faithful study can be a PTCEE student. We humbly pride ourselves on being an open door not a closed shop.

### Need

Up to the present day, PTCEE offers only print-based learning materials which are mailed out to students who similarly return assignments by post. We are committed to ensuring inclusivity by retaining this provision for those in isolated places with little or no internet access. However, the Pacific Islands in 2017 communicate digitally and online. PTCEE has not kept pace and this invites urgent change. Our constituency of present students and potential recruits ask all the time about online courses, flexible learning and open access resources. We consult regularly with our near neighbours at the University of the South Pacific (USP) who have a vibrant centre for flexible learning: though delivering theological studies is neither within their remit nor on their curriculum. They are experienced and helpful conversation partners in this project.

### Goal

Conversion and expansion of the present, print based PTCEE programme into a flexible, adaptable learning platform for the present age: able to serve a wide constituency of learners and their needs across Oceania.

Serving the peoples of American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji and Rotuma, French Polynesia, Irian Jaya, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Kanaky, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and the Pacific Diaspora worldwide.

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>Completion</b>
1.0	Upgrade PTCEE's computer and technology systems	Work with IT team of Pacific Theological College in the first instance. Budget for additional equipment and human resource.	February 2018
2.0	Upgrade PTCEE's internet provision and bandwidth capacity	Work with the IT team of Pacific Theological College in the first instance. Budget for additional equipment and human resource.	February 2018
3.0	Install and set up suitable, interactive learning platform	Initial training offered by USP Learning Systems team. (Moodle) Budget for set up, systems management and training.	February 2018
4.0	Digitize current print-based courses for online use (short term)	Departmental activity managed by current administrative staff, drawing in additional personnel	December 2017
5.0	Carry out phased instructional redesign and revision of 35 current courses	Director PTCEE to oversee. Budget for instructional design and editing personnel. Conversion to OER wherever possible.	December 2018
6.0	Commission new courses (especially BD) in the light of PTC's ongoing curriculum review	Director PTCEE and Academic Dean PTC responsible for implementation. Deliver as OER wherever possible.	Ongoing
7.0	Train local students, mentors, staff and faculty in new competencies	Learning systems manager/trainer plus PTCEE staff. Budget for training costs.	March 2018
8.0	Train students and mentors regionally in new competencies	Learning systems manager/trainer plus PTCEE staff. Budget for travel and training costs.	April-June 2018
9.0	Convert textbooks to OER wherever possible	Departmental activity in collaboration with PTC Library digitization projects. Budget for dedicated human resource plus volunteer support	Ongoing
10.0	Liaise with authors/publishers for ongoing conversions to OER	Director PTCEE to lead and network	Ongoing

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Development target</b>		<b>Item</b>	<b>BUDGET FJ\$</b>	<b>BUDGET US\$</b>
1.0	Computer equipment	1.1	Desktop 1 (database) +op system/package	3,500	1,720
		1.2	Laptop x 2	5,000	2,450
2.0, 3.0	Internet upgrade	2.1	Desktop 2 (server) + op system/package	3,500	1,720
		2.2	Dedicated internet (2 years)	12,000	5,900
		2.3	Learning systems manager/trainer	30,000	14,700
5.0	Personnel	5.1	Instructional designer/editor	25,000	12,300
		5.2	Instructional designer/editor	25,000	12,300
7.0	Training (local)	7.1	Local workshops	6,000	3,000
8.0	Training (regional)	8.1	Travel (6 country visits )	12,000	5,900
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>122,000</b>	<b>59,990</b>

### Contact details PROJECT PTCEE

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