

Contemporary PNG Studies:
DWU Research Journal



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Divine Word University
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Editors

Pam Norman, Daniel J. Stollenwerk, Evangelia Papoutsaki, Patricia Morris

Divine Word University

Divine Word University (DWU) is a national, Christian university in Papua New Guinea (www.dwu.ac.pg). The vision of DWU is to be open to all, serving society through its teaching and research. The university shares with all institutions of higher education a triple mission:

- The acquisition of knowledge, which is the mission of research
- The transmission of knowledge, which is the mission of teaching
- The application of knowledge, which is the mission of public service

Purpose of the Journal

The *Contemporary PNG Studies: DWU Research Journal*, a twice yearly publication, provides the means for DWU staff, students and associated academics to publish research findings, personal perspectives, reports of projects or developments and reviews of recent books on Papua New Guinea. The journal promotes investigations of practice and theory in fields covered by faculties and activities of Divine Word University at all its campuses.

Procedures for submission

Articles should be approximately 3000-5000 words in length, accompanied by a 100-150 word abstract and a 50-70 word biographical note about the author. Reviews of recent books on Papua New Guinea should be 900-1500 words in length. Electronic contributions using PC software can be sent by email attachment to pmorris@dwu.ac.pg OR post or deliver three hard copies with a disk copy to Ms Patricia Morris, Divine Word University, PO Box 483, Madang, Papua New Guinea.

Format for submitted work

Text should be typed, double spaced, with ample margins on A4 pages. The journal uses the Harvard author-date reference system (e.g. in-text, Larsen 1972, p. 254). References cited in the text should be listed in alphabetical order using the *Style Manual* (Australian Government Publishing Service 1994). Examples are as follows:

- Department of Education 2000, *Education for All: Assessment 2000 Papua New Guinea Country Report*, Department of Education, Waigani.
- Eri, Vincent 1970, *The Crocodile*, The Jacaranda Press, Milton, Queensland.
- Smith, G. 1972, 'Education, history and development', in Peter Ryan (General Editor), *Encyclopaedia of Papua New Guinea*, Melbourne University Press, Australia, pp. 315-330.

Review process

Manuscripts will be acknowledged on receipt. The editors will review contributions. In some instances an article will also be reviewed by a member of the editorial advisory board with expertise in the discipline. The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the editorial advisory committee for this journal.

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CONTENTS

Editorial Note

Pam Norman, Daniel J. Stollenwerk
Evangelia Papoutsaki & Patricia Morris

*The relationship between a university and its sponsoring religious
community: The vision of DWU as challenged by the reality of higher
education in Papua New Guinea*

Jan Czuba 1

*Issues in educational leadership in Papua New Guinea:
A communication arts curriculum case study*

Michael McManus 13

Nambawan to watch: EMTV, PNG's only TV channel

Dick Rooney 27

Who were the Papuans?

Peter Maurice McCallum 37

Melanesian indigenous knowledge and spirituality

Catherine Nongkas & Alfred Tivinarlik 57

*The Melanesian way: Law and justice before the arrival of the white
man*

Patrick Howley 69

*Making a community out of two or more language groups: The process
of integration of Simbu and Enga migrant groups in the Western
Highlands Province*

Douglas W. Young, John Gui & Joseph E. Lakane 81

Nation-making in public tank, Sisiak

Pat Gesch 97

Book review

*Breaking spears and mending hearts: Peacemakers and restorative
justice in Bougainville* by Patrick Howley

Reviewer: Daniel J. Stollenwerk 107

Editorial Note

Education issues have been at the forefront of the challenges Papua New Guinea has had to face over the last two decades. Having to rely on decreasing resources and increasing demands, tertiary institutions in this country are struggling to fulfil their basic duties to provide higher education services and conduct academic research. Of the two, it is the academic research that has been most effected by budget cuts and lack of resources.

Divine Word University, involved in the changing of the higher education landscape in PNG since 1996, has sought to face the challenges of the system, assess its needs and positively contribute to its future development. One of the first steps in this direction is the creation of the *Contemporary PNG Studies: DWU Research Journal* that aims to foster a research culture in the academic community of DWU and those associated with it. We consider research vital to the healthy growth of higher education in this country and hope that the journal will provide a forum for discussion and sharing of ideas.

In this inaugural volume, the first two articles focus on DWU to address issues of educational vision and leadership. *Jan Czuba*, President of the university, considers the role of the founding religious community, the laity, the council and the students in fulfilling the mission of a Christian university in PNG, while *Michael McManus* investigates the Communication Arts curriculum over the years to see whether it is meeting the real needs of the country, or simply acquiescing to the demands of the dominant mainstream media.

Dick Rooney's research into whether the country's only home-based television channel meets the informational and developmental needs of the nation provides a link, then, with the following articles that address issues of PNG history, spirituality, law, and linguistic and cultural diversity. *Maurice McCallum* surveys nearly five centuries of references to the origin and meaning of the word 'papua'. *Catherine Nongkas* and *Alfred Tivinarlik* explore Melanesian spirituality as the society transits from traditional subsistence to a more technological and sophisticated life style. *Patrick Howley* takes up the same theme of societal change posing the question of whether there can be a synthesis of customary law and Westminster justice. *Douglas Young*, *John Gui* and *Joseph Lakane* examine a process of social integration between immigrants and landowner communities suggesting that the ideas learned from this study may help foster unity on a national basis. Finally, *Pat Gesch* concludes our first volume with insights into the socio-cultural dynamics of the Sepik settlement of Public Tank near Madang.

We believe this collection of articles forms a solid beginning to DWU's commitment to investigation in the form of a research journal. We were very encouraged by the number of submissions indicating a great degree of interest in publishing locally on matters of importance to PNG. Finally, we would like to thank the contributors for sharing their ideas and having patience during the long editing process, as well as the DWU council for approving the funds to launch this first edition of the *Contemporary PNG Studies: DWU Research Journal*.

Pam Norman, Daniel J. Stollenwerk, Evangelia Papoutsaki, Patricia Morris

Editors

Pam Norman, PhD, is the Dean of the Faculty of Flexible Learning at Divine Word University. Her professional experience is concerned with the cultural relevance of teaching, teacher education and curriculum development. She has worked in Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands, Abu Dhabi and Australia. She obtained her doctorate on teacher use of indigenously developed curriculum materials from the Northern Territory University in Australia.
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