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 pnorman@dwu.ac.pg OR post or deliver three hard copies with a disk copy to Dr Pam Norman, 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:


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.

Annual subscription rates: PNG K60, US $60, AUS $60 (includes airmail post)
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Editorial Note

The appearance of the inaugural volume of the DWU Research Journal was a significant event for our community. It opened a new forum for academic discussion and sharing of research findings that was much needed. The editorial team has been very encouraged by the feedback it has received to the first volume. The increasing number of submissions demonstrates that the journal is indeed responding to a great need to publish locally on matters of importance to the DWU and wider PNG academic community.

The second volume is bringing together a number of articles that focus on education and community from a variety of perspectives. The journal received a large number of submissions on educational topics, reflecting not only an area of research activity that is prominent in our community but also a preoccupation with educational issues that are at the centre of the nation’s development.

The first part of this volume is devoted to alternative approaches to school curriculum. Doug Young discusses how, through the study of literature, history and social sciences, students can develop their moral reasoning and further their feelings of empathy for others. Shandy Chakko assesses the impact of the Values Education Program on dropout students while Francis Kari shares the findings of his research on the implemented mathematics curriculum.

The following two articles debate the university’s role through its curriculum and relationship to the community. Daniel Stollenwerk gives a critical view on DWU’s purpose as a Christian university, arguing against the university’s focus on practical education and for a higher synthesis of knowledge that brings in not just skills but culture, development and ethics. Jan Czuba’s article provides a different view of the university’s functions and its contribution to society through active community service.

Boe Lahui-Ako’s article concludes this section on educational issues with observations from his research on student evaluation of lecturing at UPNG. The rest of the articles bring in a remarkable collection of topics, starting with Catherine Levy’s personal account of her experience in doing linguistic research in the small community of Awar. Patrick Gesch’s article deals with the sensitive issues of reconstruction on Bougainville and the dilemmas aid agencies face in this process. Finally, Patrick Howley concludes this volume with insights into Melanesian custom law and how it should be acknowledged so that it can work alongside the Westminster system.

The editorial team would like to thank the two departing members, Patricia Morris and Dan Stollenwerk, for their invaluable contribution to the establishment of this journal, as well as Pat Gesch and Mark Solon for their advisory role in this volume.

Evangelia Papoutsaki
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