



NRI Review

A Quarterly Newsletter from the National Research Institute

ISSUE 1

MAY 2008

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A word of welcome to readers

As the Director of the National Research Institute, I welcome the readers to the first issue of the Institute's newsletter, 'NRI Review'.

The 'NRI Review' will be produced on a quarterly basis with the aim of informing stakeholders and members of the public about policy research work in progress and other activities being undertaken at NRI.

The Institute previously had a newsletter—'NRI Observer'—in the 1990s, but this publication ceased in 1996. Since then, there has been little information made available to government agencies, development partners, and the academic institutions about work in progress. We hope that by relaying information on policy research and analysis work carried out by NRI, these can be better harnessed in order for improved decision making by our stakeholders.



Dr. Thomas Webster,
Director, National Research Institute.

Current work at NRI is guided by the long-term Strategic Plan, a revised five-year Corporate Plan (2008-2012), and the 2008 Annual Work Plan. Current research work focuses on priorities set out in the Medium Term Development Strategy. These include broad based strategies to grow the economy by more than five percent, good governance, universal basic education, environmentally sustainable development

practices, and preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The six divisions produce quarterly reports for the NRI Council and excerpts of these will be published in the newsletter. The 'NRI Review' will also feature articles on reviews of seminars, conferences, and workshops, media articles, forthcoming events, publications, and NRI happenings.

I hope that our stakeholders having been informed can involve in some of these activities. The newsletter will be disseminated via the postal addresses and through email, or can be accessed on the NRI website.

It is with great pleasure that I launch this newsletter and invite you to be engaged more in the work of the National Research Institute. If you want to become a regular subscriber, please let us know.

NRI undergoes infrastructure development

by Esther Haro

NRI's Waigani campus which is opposite the University of Papua New Guinea, is currently undergoing a major transformation to its infrastructure, thanks to AusAID through the Australia-PNG Incentive Fund.

Work on the building developments commenced in October 2007 with the laying of the foundations for a conference centre, new office buildings, refurbishment of existing offices, and staff houses.

The building project is expected to be completed by the end of October 2008. It is a design and build project with the project

being managed by the Project Management Team.

The buildings were designed by Terence Karo Architects, the project's structural design was done by Napitalai Engineers, and the building contractors are Heduru Contractors Limited.

By October 2008, the campus will feature four additional staff houses, a new library upgrade, a two-storey office complex that will house the publishing and administration staff and a new production centre.



James Tongore, Site Manager for Heduru Contractors, stands next to the site that will become the new headquarters for the IT, Library, Production, and Publishing Division, next to the new Administration offices.

Continued on page 6

The National Research Institute—developing policies for national development, good governance, and more informed decision making

National Land Development Program Update

by **Dr. Thomas Webster**
Chairman, National Land
Development Program Taskforce

The National Research Institute continues to provide support to the National Government's Land Development Program.

The National Land Development Program commenced with a National Land Summit that was held in Lae, in August 2005, at the direction of the Minister for Lands and Physical Planning, Hon. Puka Temu.

The summit focused on accessing land for development. Land is a key factor of production, but remains relatively underutilised in PNG. Its potential to create wealth also remains untapped. How can PNG access land for development purposes in order to generate wealth for the country and for landowners?

Many speakers talked about the ineffectiveness of current land administration practices where state land (alienated land) remain underutilised. Others spoke of a breakdown in land dispute settlement mechanisms where those who wanted to use land for productive purposes could not do so because of disputes that could not be resolved in a speedy manner.

The accessibility to customary land for development practices was of particular interest. Many spoke of the special relations that people in PNG have with the land. Our heritage, our culture, and the well-being of our people are tied to land. Land provides a safe bedrock and haven for the well-being of our society. Any attempts to change that could result in future generations becoming landless.

However, others noted that changes in modern society also created challenges and posed threats to the organised rules of land ownership and land-use rights as practised by our forefathers.

Editorial:
James Robins, Jenny Parina,
and Esther Haro

Publisher:
Dr. Thomas Webster,
Director of the National
Research Institute.



Mrs. Andie Aitikus, a Senior Lands Officer with the Evangelical Lutheran Church PNG sharing her observation of land matters during the workshop.

Customary landowners need to be better protected under new arrangements.

A report on the National Land Summit to the National Executive Council led to the establishment of the National Land Development Taskforce (NLDT) which was assisted by three specialist committees to explore options for accessing land for development.

The NLDT came up with 52 recommendations covering the need for improved land administration, land dispute resolution systems, and a proposed mechanism to allow registration of customary land by landowners for development purposes.

The National Land Development Task Force Report was endorsed by the Government in December 2006 and the Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare, launched the National Land Development Program in February 2007.

K1 million was allocated to draw up plans for the implementation of the plan. A Concept Design Document providing a clear framework for implementation, identifying specific activities, and estimated costs was prepared and subsequently approved by the Government.

From the 2008 Budget, the National Government allocated K31 million to start the implementation of the National Land Development Program.

The Department of Lands and Physical Planning is responsible for implementing recommendations related to land administration. The Magisterial Ser-

vices is looking at establishing a separate land court system. The Constitutional and Law Reform Commission has commenced work on legal instruments that will allow customary land to be registered by landowners and leased to developers. The Office of Urbanisation is working with customary landowners in urban settings to trial the new instruments in registering land and leasing it to developers.

The Office of Urbanisation will also be responsible for supporting the growth of urban centres in rural districts through better physical planning and land administration practices. Other agencies will come on board as required for the implementation of various activities identified in the Concept Design Document.

As the implementation progresses, there will be other issues that will arise. The Government has set up mechanisms for evaluating and improving policies and systems. These include a Ministerial Committee to oversee the implementation of the Land Development Program, a Management Committee comprising all the heads of the implementing agencies to make management decisions, and a Program Implementation Unit to coordinate implementation.

The NRI houses the Secretariat of the National Land Development Advisory Group (NLDAG)—a body that comprises academic and private sector interest groups appointed by the Government that will provide independent assessment and input to the National Land Development Program. The Institute, in conjunction with the National Land Development Taskforce, the Constitutional and Law Reform Commission, the Department of Lands and Physical Planning, the Office of Urbanisation, and Magisterial Services are spearheading awareness visits to select provinces in the four regions.

A one-day workshop was held in Lae, in April. The participants who attended included customary landowners, church representatives, land mediators, representatives from the University of Technology, the Lae Urban Council, the Aihi Local-level Government, the Lae District Administrator's Office, and the Morobe Provincial Administration.

Highlights from Political and Legal Studies Division

by **Fiona Hukula**
Acting Head of Department

The first quarter of 2008 for the division began on a positive note with a number of highlights.

Some of the highlights include the launching of two new publications under the governance/subnational governance research program.

Senior Research Fellow, Dr. Alphonse Gelu prepared an article, "Developing a Coherent Policy for the Restructure of Decentralised Government", for the 'Spotlight with NRI' publication. Together with Prof. Andrew Axline, he co-authored the Literature Review, "The Quest for Good Governance: A Survey of Literature on the Reform of Intergovernmental Relations in Papua New Guinea".

The preparation for the 2007 National General Elections Findings Seminar was a key activity for the Election Research Program. Draft copies of the

election observer report were distributed in March 2008 to the Inter-Departmental Election Committee.

The Ethical and Public Administration Program is progressing well with case studies already identified and research and write-up in progress.

The division farewelled Research Fellow, Albert Ayius, after seven years with NRI. Albert has taken up a position with the Asian Development Bank. Teddy Winn, a former cadet and Project Research Officer won a position with the Independent Public Business Corporation. Teddy has subsequently secured a scholarship to pursue his Masters Degree studies in Japan.

Jennifer Adema and Andrew Anton are two cadets who have been assigned to the Political and Legal Studies Division. Former Cadet, Emmanuel Pok has been assigned to work on both the governance research program and the ethical and public administration program.

Education Studies Division Projects

by **Longamel Kippel**
Acting Head of Department

The Education Studies Division continued with its research activities carried over from 2007.

1. Action Research into Retention of Students at Primary and Secondary Schools

The PRIDE office, Fiji, and the Education PRIDE committee gave approval for the write-up of this research activity to be completed by June 2008

2. Teacher Deployment

Contact has been maintained with the University of Goroka and Divine Word University since the beginning of the 2008 school year. A meeting was held by all stakeholders on 3 April 2008 to plan how the research should be conducted. The research activity will commence in June 2008.

3. Promoting Literacy and Learning Communities

A draft report of the research was

discussed in February 2008 with a researcher from the University of Papua New Guinea. A progress report was received in early April 2008. The final report should be presented to NRI by the end of April 2008.

4. Effectiveness of Inservice and Capacity Building in Relation to Mastery and Application of Skills.

DIWAI, the research arm of the Divine Word University advised that they were having difficulty in collecting some of the data required for this research and that there would be a delay in furnishing the report.

5. Curriculum and Learning in Schools

A progress report on this research activity will be provided in May 2008.

6. Research on Education of Lihir Children

A draft contract was provided by the Nimamar LLG (Lihir) in March 2008. The contract between Nimamar LLG and NRI was signed in April 2008.

National Housing Policy Taskforce Update

by **Linda Duncan**
Research Fellow, Economic Studies Division

In June 2007, the National Housing Policy Taskforce engaged the NRI as a strategic adviser on the design of a National Housing Policy. The Taskforce comprises representatives from various government departments and is chaired by the Secretary for Treasury, Simon Tosali. A Technical Working Group was later established to assist the taskforce.

A public workshop was held in July 2007 to gather submissions and present a desktop analysis of past and current interventions in the housing market from stakeholders. Using this information, NRI developed a strategic framework for the development of a National Housing Policy. This framework was outlined in a National Housing Strategy and was presented to stakeholders at a subsequent workshop in November 2007.

The Taskforce is currently waiting for the National Executive Council (NEC) to consider the framework. This National Housing Strategy was designed to establish a common position within the government on the framework, including the roles of the government, individual households, and businesses so that more specific implementation strategies can be developed.

NRI also developed an Issues Paper that outlined five key areas where further work is required in order to develop more specific strategies and action plans for inclusion in the National Housing Policy.

These areas are:

- regulation of the housing sector;
- private sector participation in the housing sector;
- housing finance;
- institutional housing; and
- availability of land for housing.

NRI put forward a recommendation that working committees be established to undertake further research and analysis in these areas. However, the Taskforce has put on hold further work towards the development of the National Housing Policy until the NEC approves the framework outlined in the National Housing Strategy document. NRI is currently negotiating an extension of its consultancy agreement with the Taskforce in order to progress the development of the National Housing Policy.

2007 National Elections Findings Seminar

The Political and Legal Studies Division hosted a one-day seminar on the findings of the 2007 National Elections on 11 April 2008 at the Hide-away Hotel.

Senior Research Fellow with the Division, Dr. Ray Anere and his team of researchers conducted an in-depth study of the 2007 National Elections, and their findings into various issues surrounding the elections was revealed at the seminar.

The researchers, who are also academics at various universities in the country, included Mr. Steven Gary, Dr. Goru Hane-Nou, Dr. Michael Unagi, Fr. Pat Gesch, Mr. Patrick Matbob, Dr. Ron May, Lt. Col. Siale Diro, Dr. Alphonse Gelu, Mr. Elly Kinkin, Dr. Orovu Sepoe, and Mr. Dixon Susub.

They presented their findings on the following areas and issues:

- assumptions of the Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates (OLIPPAC), Organic Law on National and Local-level Elections (OLNLE), and Limited Preferential Voting (LPV);
- election administration,
- impact of the LPV;
- LPV and HIV/AIDS awareness;
- election security;
- election boundaries, and others.

Representatives from the media, the PNG Electoral Commission, Transparency International (PNG), aid agencies, the diplomatic corps, academics, and relevant stakeholders attended.



Some of the participants at the election seminar pay close attention to speakers.

Seminar and Launch of Literature Review

On 27 February 2008, the Political and Legal Studies Division hosted a seminar and launch of a literature review on *The Quest for Good Governance: A Survey of Literature on the Reform of Intergovernmental Relations in PNG*.

This publication is co-authored by Professor Andrew Axline, and Senior Research Fellow, Dr. Alphonse Gelu.

Acting Secretary for the Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs, Mr. Russell Ikosi, officially launched the review in front of a packed room of participants from line agencies, provincial planners, independent researchers, former bureaucrats, and the relevant stakeholder representatives at the Lamana Hotel.

Current initiatives for the restructuring of decentralised government include a number of divergent — even contradictory proposals for greater provincial autonomy, creating new provincial governments, and eliminating provincial governments. In order to eliminate confusion and inconsistency in adopting new policies in this area, a single coherent policy process must be created.

NRI worked closely with the Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs in producing this literature review on decentralisation and intergovernmental relations, which also has an extensive annotated bibliography of official and unofficial documents, from pre-independence to the present time.

The review analyses previous reform efforts and offers recommendations. It critically looks at changes currently being made to reform and restructure intergovernmental relations, and proposes a way forward.



Dr. Thomas Webster (left) presents the literature review to Mr. Russell Ikosi, while co-author Dr. Alphonse Gelu looks on.

NRI HIV seminar series update

by Patrick Kaiku
Research Project Officer

From early 2008, the Social and Environment Studies Division (SESD) has been facilitating a bi-monthly NRI HIV seminar series.

The NRI HIV seminar series is part of the Socio-Behavioural Research Dissemination Program.

There is a lack of available research being translated into evidence-based policy, planning, and programming for particular targets and contexts. The aim of the HIV seminar series is to engage stakeholders in debate and discussions about research findings so that these can be translated into effective policy and HIV prevention, treatment, and care programs.

The exchanging of ideas and information helps partner agencies to make inroads into realistic public policy thinking. It further assists their organi-

sations with their approaches and strategies in response to the HIV epidemic.

In February 2008, Dr. Catherine Lepani, a scholar in the Gender Relations Centre at The Australian National University, presented a Paper, 'Steady with Custom: Culture and HIV prevention in the Trobriands'.

Nineteen participants from Oxfam (PNG), Friends Foundation, Poro Sapot (Save the Children), UNAIDS, Catholic Theological Institute (CTI), and NRI staff members attended.

In March 2008, the Seminar Series had its second guest speaker was Dr. Susan Paxton. Dr. Paxton is a member of Positive Women (Victoria, Australia) and does consultancy work in PNG and abroad.

Eighteen participants from various agencies attended, and learned a lot from Dr. Paxton's experience in advocacy and human rights work.

Government must make use of research information, says Ogio

The government has been urged to make use of information emanating from research carried out into various developmental issues, if it wants to make good decisions for the country and its people.

The challenge was made by Mr. Michael Ogio, the Minister for Higher Education, Research, Science, and Technology, after paying a courtesy visit to the National Research Institute in March 2008.

The National Research Institute comes under Mr. Ogio's ministry and is the third organisation he has visited, after the University of Technology and the Divine Word University.

Director of the National Research Institute, Dr. Thomas Webster, took the Minister on a tour of the institute.



Dr. Thomas Webster (left) and Program Manager Mr. Logo Lotu (right) take Minister Ogio (centre) on a tour of the NRI campus.

The Minister later met with the heads of the various divisions who briefed him on the research activities which

they were conducting.

Mr. Ogio commended the Institute for the excellent work it has done so far and challenged it to conduct more research into population growth, student drop-outs from the education system, corruption, and conducting honest elections.

The Minister thanked the Australian Government, through AusAID, for funding the infrastructure development that the Institute is currently undergoing.

He said that the national government should also do its part and increase funding to the Institute so that it can continue to conduct sound, in-depth research.

PNG Yearbook launch a success

by Esther Haro

interested readers.

The National Research Institute had the Prime Minister, Grand Chief, Sir Michael Somare, as a special guest at the launching of the PNG Yearbook 2008 at the institute's seminar room, on 5 March 2008.

The PNG Yearbook 2008 is produced and published by Pacific Star Limited and Cassowary Books each year.

The chapters and sections are written by a range of authors and the publication is a goldmine of information, ready to be accessed by

The PNG Yearbook 2008 covers topics such as culture and society, health, agriculture, financial services, telecommunications, agriculture, and mining among others. It offers the best and most up-to-date references on trends and statistics.

The National Research Institute features prominently in this edition providing commentaries on economics, education, population, gender violence, decentralisation, land reform, corruption, and politics.



Rare Moment: (from l-r) HOD for Publishing Jim Robins, Director of NRI, Dr. Thomas Webster, Editor of the PNG Yearbook 2008, Mr. Brian Gomez, and the Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare have a chat after the successful launch of the yearbook.

NRI and Health Department sign MOU

For the first time, the National Research Institute will be working with the National Department of Health (NDOH) to produce HIV behavioural surveillance research data.

The data, once collected, will assist the NDOH in implementing the PNG National HIV, AIDS, and STI Surveillance Plan, 2008 – 2010 and boost the department's behavioural surveillance activities.

This working relationship was cemented with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and Funding Arrangement between the Director of NRI, Dr. Thomas Webster and the Secretary for Health, Dr. Clement Malau, on 15 April 2008.

Fifty percent of the funding for the HIV behavioural surveillance research project will come from the Asian Development Bank, under the HIV Prevention and Control in Rural Development Enclaves Project.

The additional funding will be mobilised by the NDOH from other donor partners supporting the PNG National HIV, AIDS, and STI Surveillance Plan, 2008 – 2010.

Some K400 000 is required by the institute to establish the behavioural surveillance research office within NRI, to recruit a team of qualified staff, and for funding the collection of relevant data. The three-year project is estimated to cost around K4 million.

NRI undergoes major renovation

Continued from p. 1

The campus will also have a separate building that contains the new seminar and conference centre and a catering service. Heduru Contractors Limited will also build a new barbecue cum recreation facility for staff.

The current office complex will be upgraded and will house the Institute's four research divisions. The building that currently house the printshop, bookshop, seminar room, and accounts office, will be renovated to provide office spaces for visiting researchers and academics.

Ezekiel Brown, the Assistant Project Supervisor reported that progress work for the first quarter of this year has been slow because of the need to relocate water and sewer pipes.

"The existing water and sewer pipes run directly under the project site and so at the beginning of the year we had problems whenever the contractors burst the pipes in the process of laying the foundations.

"We need to reroute the pipes away from the site and this has slowed down our target for the first quarter of this year", he said.

Ezekiel said that by the end of March, the project was 28 per cent complete. Heavy rains towards the end of 2007 and in early 2008 affected construction work.

So far 85 percent of the new staff houses have been completed and the existing administration building is sporting fresh paint, renovated offices, and an adjoining ablution block. Other activities that are yet to commence include paving of new roads, the removal of the old fence and extension of new fencing perimeter, and the construction of a new entrance and guard house.

A separate building comprising four, two-bedroom units, next to the existing staff quarters is nearing completion. This building is being funded by the Institute as staff accommodation.



The new NRI staff flats comprising four, two-bedroom units are nearing completion.

NRI COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Sir Henry Chow, Kt, OBE (Chairperson), Business Representative
- Mr Gomi Gipe, Unitech Representative
- Professor Ross Hynes, Vice-Chancellor, UPNG
- Mr Luke Freeman, Department of Personnel Management
- Mr Wilson Thompson, Community Representative
- Mr Peter Kora, Department of National Planning and Monitoring
- Dr Thomas Webster, NRI Director
- Ms Longamel Kippel, NRI Staff Representative
- Member of Parliament, Vacant
- Member of Parliament, Vacant

Noticeboard of Events

Publishing Division

- The recent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference in Bali brought several hundred world leaders together to discuss the impact of global warming, climate changes, greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. PNG was quite vocal on issues concerning climate change, and the next phase of the Kyoto Protocol.

NRI, in conjunction with the British High Commission, recognised the need for a Post-Bali seminar to enable Papua New Guinea to raise awareness of its own specific problems related to climate change. Mr. Jim Robins, Head of the Publishing Division is organising the much anticipated climate change seminar which will be held in July 2008.

Education Studies Division

- Ms. Patricia Paraide is currently on three-months study leave to complete her Ph.D thesis.
- Dr. Arnold Kukari wrote a number of Accelerating Girls Education (AGE) articles that appeared in the *Post-Courier*. He also facilitated the contribution of AGE articles from Mathlina Somo and Jennifer Adema on their experiences in gaining an education. The articles appeared in April 2008.
- Acting Head of Department, Longamel Kippel organised a teacher deployment planning meeting that was attended by University of Goroka and Divine Word University representatives on 3 April 2008.
- Dr. Arnold Kukari and Longamel Kippel continue to attend the weekly Universal Basic Education (UBE) meeting with the National Department of Education (NDOE). They both attended a three-day UBE retreat organised by the NDOE from 9-11 April 2008.

Other events

In addition to the main NRI Council meetings, the Institute also has a number of working committees. They include the various Research Committees, Heads of Divisions (HOD) Committee, Tenders Committee, Publications Committee, and Staff Development and Training Committee. Meeting dates and times of each committee are scheduled in the 2008 NRI Almanac to ensure the proper coordination of meeting times.

Spotlight with NRI Vol. 2 No. 1 launched

The British High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, H.E. David Dunn, launched the first issue of the second volume of NRI's new publication 'Spotlight with NRI' on 14 February 2008 at the Lamana Hotel.

The issue titled, "*Developing a coherent policy for the restructure of decentralised government*", argues for the establishment of a single coherent process for addressing the major problems with the existing system of decentralised government.

Many of the development issues and problems emerging in the rural areas are the result of services not reaching the bulk of the people.

Every year, the government gives money, through the annual budget, to improve service delivery, but these efforts have been ineffective in stemming the deterioration in service delivery and infrastructure.

The issue argues that a restructure of the decentralised government system is

imperative in addressing the current shortfalls in service delivery.

This first issue for 2008 was authored by Dr. Alphonse Gelu and Prof. Andrew Axline.

The 'Spotlight with NRI' articles discuss topical policy issues in non-technical terms and are designed to inform and enhance the quality of discussion amongst policy makers, policy stakeholders, and the public at large.



(from L-R) The authors Prof. Andrew Axline and Dr. Alphonse Gelu display the publication with His Excellency, David Dunn, (right) British High Commissioner.

Discussion Papers on Bougainville Autonomy and Consolidating Democracy launched

The Institute recently launched two new learned publications on governance.

Discussion Paper No. 102, 'Consolidating Democracy: A Strategy for Peaceful Development in Papua New Guinea', by Des Hoban.

This publication reflects on the nature of Papua New Guinea's development problems, why they are proving to be so unresponsive to policy interventions, and what could be done to realise PNG's potential for peaceful development.

It discusses subnational governance reform, the dormant private sector, the national political community, a new model for PNG's local government and political community, the prospects for reform, political integration, and reform pathways.

Discussion Paper No 103, 'Bougainville Autonomy: Implications for Governance and Decentralisation', by Prof. Edward Wolfers.

This publication presents the founding

and guiding principles for the establishment, operation, and development of the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG), as contained in the Bougainville Peace Agreement.

The paper discusses the implications of autonomy for Bougainville, particularly the need for an enlarged public service, and personnel with higher-level policy and planning skills than that which exists in the current provincial governments.

The former Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Sir Rabbie Namaliu, launched the two publications.



Prof. Edward Wolfers (right) with Mr. Ellison ToWallom (left), the Deputy Director, National Coordination for Bougainville Affairs, who was a guest at the book launch.

NRI Bibliography Series

The Bibliography series is the initiative of the Director of the NRI, Dr. Thomas Webster, who recognised the need for identifying literature on a range of important development issues.

The first bibliography, 'HIV/AIDS in Papua New Guinea, 1987—2005', was launched in 2007. Six additional bibliographies were recently launched:

Bibliography No. 9

'Educational Reform in Papua New Guinea', compiled by Patricia Paraide (K8)

Bibliography No. 10

'Population Studies in Papua New Guinea, 1966 – 2005', compiled by Esther Lavu (K18)

Bibliography No. 11

'Corruption in Papua New Guinea,' compiled by Albert Ayius (K8)

Bibliography No. 12

'Security Issues in Papua New Guinea and the Asia-Pacific region', compiled by James Laki (K8)

Bibliography No. 13

'Transport in Papua New Guinea', compiled by Agogo Mawuli and Lindsay Kutan (K8)

Bibliography No. 14

'Land in Papua New Guinea', compiled by Charles Yala and Lindsay Kutan (K10)

Copies can be purchased from the Institute's Publications Officer, Mr. Naime Onea on 326 0300 Ext. 328.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The following publications were also recently launched :

- Special Publication No. 47, **Corruption in PNG: Towards and Understanding of Issues**, by Albert Ayius and Ron May (eds.), (K24);
- Discussion Paper No. 105, **The Ok Tedi Mine Continuation Agreements**, by Lawrence Kalinoe (K24); and
- Special Publication No. 43, **Lae Community Crime Survey**, by G. Guthrie, F.Hukula and J.Laki (K23).

NRI Waigani Lodge

by Esther Haro

The Institute's Waigani Lodge is located at the Waigani campus and continues to house many visiting researchers.

The Lodge was recently fully renovated as part of the Institute's upgrading of infrastructure facilities.

It boasts eight self-contained units with all the white goods, including television sets that access Hitron services. There is a laundry area with two heavy duty washing machines, an ironing room, a store room, and an office.

Laundry and ironing services are done by the Institute's cleaning staff and

service is charged per item of clothing.

The former lodge lacked the essential amenities to make researchers feel at home, but the 'new lodge' is all class. The Lodge extension and upgrading project was funded by the PNG-Australia Incentive Fund and was completed by Heduru Contractors Limited.

The Lodge is located in peaceful, secure, and quiet surroundings and each unit has a balcony where one can feel the cool breeze and look down on the Institute. Its lighting exudes a relaxing atmosphere at night. Occupancy is charged at K140 a night. Bookings can be made through the Institute's Accounts Section.

2008 Work Plan Workshop



NRI staff pay attention to presentations.

Staff of the National Research Institute have been challenged to work towards achieving the targets earmarked for their divisions for 2008.

The challenge came from the Director, Dr. Thomas Webster, at a workshop held early this year to remind and encourage staff to work towards the overall aim of the institute. The divisions prepare an annual work plan to guide their activities for the following year.

Five graduates join NRI cadetship program



The cadets (from L-R) Andrew Anton, Ronald Sofo, Jeffrey Murley, Matlina Somo, and Jennifer Adema

by Ipul Powaseu
Executive Officer

a career in research, few have joined NRI in the past.

Five new graduates joined the NRI in January 2008 under the cadetship scheme.

They were selected from a list of 160 applicants. The cadets are Jennifer Adema, Matlina Somo, Jeffrey Murley, Ronald Sofo, and Andrew Anton.

The one-year cadetship scheme is for young university graduates with first and/or Honours degrees, and who have good academic ability and a keen interest in research

The scheme aims to develop cadets to become researchers and public policy analysts at the institute and for public and private sector organisations.

Despite many young graduates being keen in pursuing

Some young graduates from UPNG who joined the Institute through its former Staff Development Program were Chris Haiveta, Kila Ai, Hulamari Ilave, Arai Pula, Gomi Gipey, Jennifer Litau, and Charles Yala. However, all were snatched from the Institute as soon as they returned from their postgraduate studies.

Through this scheme, NRI trains and grooms potential research staff. Training takes place through seminars, self-guided learning, and on-the-job experience.

The cadets are expected to prepare an annotated bibliography or literature review, a power point presentation, a policy brief, and a research proposal during their time at NRI.

**The National Research Institute, Corner Goro-Kaeaga Road and
Waigani Drive, Waigani.**

PO Box 5854, Boroko. NCD 111. PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

Phone: 675-326-0300/675-326 0061 Fax: 675-326-0213

Email: nri@global.net.pg Website: www.nri.org.pg