

From The Editor: PHD Matters



Whew ! It must be old age! But Pacific Health Dialog is slipping again. This first issue Volume 17(1), 2011, is just emerging. However, there is no need to panic because the second issued is on the way as we speak! Work is progressing on the PHD 2008 issues. Once these get to you then: Eureka! Bob's your uncle!

My condolences to the families, colleagues and friends of; Dr. Aminis David and Dr . Louise Engelberg from Pohnpei. They were stalwart supporters of PHD and Pasifikans' Health. Kaselehlia and God Bless!

There are always trials and tribulations with PHD, but there has always been fun and learning, thanks to supporters' help, especially Azima Mazid, Directorate Pasifika@Massey, Massey University, and Natasha Greer, from the Pasifika Medical Association.

PHD supporters met in Nadi at the Pasifika Medical Association 2011 Annual Conference. They agreed that PHD is now owned by the Pasifika Medical Association (PMA) and the supporters remain the same. For the meantime PMA will provide the regular funding necessary for managing, producing, and distributing PHD. All else is to remain the same while PMA build a structure for permanently housing PHD at its premises and taking over all the PHD functions. The Guest Editorial have elaborated.

Another whew! The inaugural editor is still looking for young editors to step forward. Dr. Berlin Kafoa and Dr. Gerhard Sundin are putting up their hands. Berlin recently led the production of the Fiji School of Medicine 125th Year Anniversary Issue Vol.16 (2), 2010. Gerhard , of Auckland University of Technology, is completing Vol 17 (2), 2011. Berlin have scheduled an issue in 2012 on Education for Health. Dr Greg Dever of PIHOA is organising an issue in 2012 on Ear Health in the Pacific. We are awaiting word from the Brisbane Pacific Health Information hub on when they will be live!

As for this PHD issue it's a mixed bag of CD and NCD. Whatever, with diseases like Rheumatic heart diseases its confusing to go which way? Even with some cancers, diabetes , heart diseases and dental diseases, there are infectious agent involvements.

Thanks to all contributors and please keep the papers flowing, even though the peer review process has been sluggish at best. A very special thanks to Joe, Berlin, Mabel and Professor Ian Rouse of the Fiji Medical School, now at Fiji National University, for the financial and intellectual assistance to streamline PHD management. They also built and maintain the PHD website: www.pacifichealthdialog.org.fj. Please compliment this work by visiting and providing comments to improve and develop the website.

Please bear with PHD. May I also ask for more peer reviewers and intellectual supporters. All these will make PHD matter and still be the cheapest PHD on offer!

In this issue we are introducing a special feature using powerPoint presentations! If you are interested please let's take a look at yours. This effort is to publicise the intellects that don't seem to be making it to



the paper form in any hurry! A case for any news is better than no news at all! Please let me know what you think!

Let PHD speak for you and grow into a Pasifika intellectual force.

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