

Dear Colleague,

Member of the Pacific Islands Universities Research Network (PIURN), the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) is organizing virtually the **4th PIURN Conference, on November 15th and 16th, 2021.**

The Conference aims to explore the theme **“Shaping our Tomorrow Today: Research, Innovation and Practice in the Pacific”**

PIURN is a consortium of 14 Universities in Pacific Islands Countries and Territories and works to enable closer collaboration among researchers, with the aim of addressing the challenges faced by the Pacific Region.

The 4th PIURN conference intends to bring together researchers from PIURN Member Universities, scholars from and outside the Pacific Region. We also invite Pacific students to submit papers.

We cordially invite you to submit your papers/abstracts before October 15th, 2021. Papers can be submitted in English or French, through the following platform: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=2021piurn>

The papers will be reviewed by our Scientific Committee.

The conference main suggested topics include:

Strengthening Pacific cultures and identities:

- Indigenous Pacific Island Cultures in Times of Rapid Social Change (severing family and community ties, impact of urbanization on social organization, education and women empowerment, relationship to endangered natural ecosystems...)
- Pacific identities and values. Religions in the Pacific.
- Multilingualism and multiculturalism in the Pacific

Future of Pacific Youth in challenging times

- Pacific post-pandemic future : a youth's perception
- Learning and teaching during Covid 19
- Training of the next generation : higher education in the Pacific
- Applications of Innovative Technologies for Sustainability (i.e wireless network emulation)

Climate change and biodiversity in Pacific Islands Countries and Territories

- Climate Change (Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience) and natural hazards (Detection, Forecast, social Impacts)
- Biodiversity conservation
- Renewal Energy in the Pacific
- The Impact of Mining and Logging (needs to be included for purposes of emphasis because of destructive impact on island communities)
- GIS and data science for environmental decision making

Improving Health and Well Being in Pacific communities

- Impact of COVID-19 in the Pacific
- Health and Well-being in Times of Rapid Social Change (including NCD, access to health care systems, traditional and western medicine)

- Food Security
- Sports (financial, health, and cultural benefits)

Good governance and innovative decision making for sustainability of Pacific societies

- Governance, leadership in the Pacific
- Overcoming social and territorial inequities
- Peace and Justice
- Blue economies

Further information can be found on <https://piurn.org>

We invite you to disseminate this Call for Papers among your colleagues and your University.

For any general inquiry, please contact: mathilde.souchon@invite.unc.nc

Best Regards,

PIURN Conference Organizing Committee