

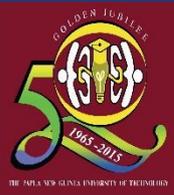


THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

# *University Reform in PNG: the UNITECH experience*

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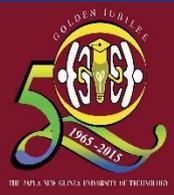


# *Contents*

1- The Rationale for University reform and Current Challenges

2- Transforming the PNG University of Technology

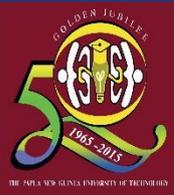
3- Opportunities for Partnerships



# *Introduction*

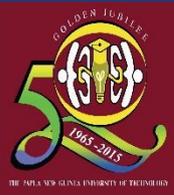
Reform of the PNG higher education systems has failed, due to strong resistance of the university councils to:

- Political interference (appointments and selection of students)
- Risk end of their Council's autonomy, and
- Threats to academic freedom.



# 1. *Rationale for HE Reform*

- Need to increase capacity - Low Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER <2%).
- Lack of competences in graduates.
- Lack of Universities' financial accountability and bloated payrolls.
- No development on campus, lack of maintenance and repairs.

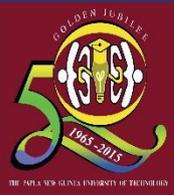


# 1. Challenges

Independent Review of the PNG University System (Namaliu/Garnaut Report 2010):

- .Governance reform: representative or expertise based Council?

- .Academic Quality: curriculum review and development or hiring of fully qualified academics.

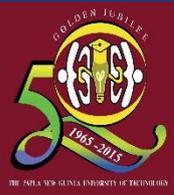


# 1. Challenges

New Higher Education Act 2014, creation of Department of Higher Education Research Science and Technology, and Secretariat for Research.

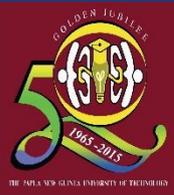
Only consequential amendment in University Acts from Art. 109:

- .Government's Direct Appointment of the Chancellor and Pro Chancellor
- .Government's Approval of Appointment of Vice Chancellor.



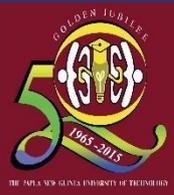
## *2. Transforming UNITECH*

- ICT: O3B fast internet through satellite and all 1<sup>st</sup> years with laptops.
- International accreditation
  - Industrial Advisory Board
  - Curriculum review with external assessors for subject files.
- Increase number of higher degree students from 2 to 10 per year.



## *2. Transforming UNITECH*

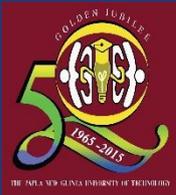
- Scholarships and Grant applications through Association of Commonwealth Universities, Erasmus Mundus, Horizon 2020, and bi-lateral arrangements India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, and Australia.
- “Top Talent” program for excellent students.
- Dual degree programs for Masters degrees.



## 2. *Transforming UNITECH*

For UNITECH agenda around Council reform is less urgent than:

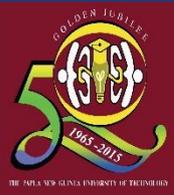
- efficient and effective management,
- teaching quality and international accreditation,
- research intensification and infrastructure (IT and internet),
- innovation and entrepreneurship,
- Internationalisation.



## 3. *Opportunities for Partnership*

- Postgraduate Certificate in Student-Centred Teaching
- Postgraduate Certificate in Research Practice
- Teaching and Research Areas:
  - Development Studies
  - Accounting
  - Economics
  - Mining Engineering
  - Applied Physics
  - Creation of Biomedical Engineering
- Support in operations: IT introduction, reorganization, and financial accounting and reporting.





# *Final Remarks*

- After decades of lack of progress, and a prolonged governance crisis 2007-2014, UNITECH has been transforming itself in a very positive manner.
- UNITECH is ready for increased engagement in operations, teaching, research and outreach.
- UNITECH is looking for investment partners for its master plan for the 220 Ha campus in Lae <http://www.unitechpng.com> (video)

# Questions & Answers

Feel free to drop me a line:

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The Association  
of Commonwealth  
Universities



Erasmus  
Mundus