

# THE Pacific WAY

## Welcome Fuianina to the PPTC as a newly appointed Trustee



**Talofa lava. Malo le soifua maua ma le lagi e mama.**

Fuianina Washburn, a medical laboratory scientist born in Aotearoa of Samoan descent carries with her 15+ years' experience in anatomic pathology/histology. Fui's working life has been mostly within the Wellington region both in public and in the private sectors. In 2010 she had the opportunity to experience working in medical laboratories in the UK - with a short time in research where she studied tissue grafting for amputees. Fui has been a

contractor with the PPTC since 2016 and has always been inspired by the valued contribution the PPTC makes to the Pacific and its people. She is so very excited and privileged to step into this role and hopes that her contributions will continue to aid the cause.

**Faafetai mo le avanoa. Tofa Soifua.**

## Overseas travel

Now that Pacific borders have reopened or are about to reopen, Pacific travel is again on the PPTC's agenda until the conclusion of 2022.



We say farewell to Navin Karan and wish him every success in the new chapter of his professional career.

Navin graduated from the University of Otago, and qualified as a New Zealand registered medical laboratory scientist in 2008 specialising both in clinical microbiology and diagnostic molecular pathology, and since then he has gained a wealth of experience working in medical diagnostic laboratories throughout



New Zealand. Navin held the position of Programme Teaching and Training Manager for molecular diagnostic platforms and PPTC centre-based courses. He was also EQA coordinator for the COVID / molecular EQA programme as well as being a PPTC senior consultant in microbiology and infectious diseases. Over the last two years, Navin reached expert levels in portable laboratory construction design, oversight of production and final delivery, representing the PPTC internationally as an authority in contract management and shipping container laboratory systems. With enormous regret the PPTC farewells Navin after 10 years of exceptional service to the Pacific and its people, and he will always be remembered for the enormous contribution that he has made to the quality of Pacific laboratory diagnostic services and the wellbeing of the communities they serve. Navin has left the PPTC and the shores of New Zealand to take up a new and challenging position in Melbourne, Australia, with the Victoria Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, which is now part of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity.

Country	Reason for travel	PPTC consultants	Discipline/ activity
Samoa	Pre-audit laboratory strengthening	Phil Wakem Russell Cole	Haematology Microbiology Accreditation alignment ISO15189
Cook Islands	Pre-audit laboratory strengthening	Phil Wakem Clare Murphy	Haematology Biochemistry Laboratory quality management
Solomon Islands	Antimicrobial resistance in association with PRIDA (Pacific Regional Infectious Diseases Association) PPTC laboratory audit (2022)	Russell Cole	Microbiology Laboratory quality management Accreditation alignment ISO15189
Cook Islands	PPTC laboratory audit (2022)	John Elliot	Laboratory quality management Accreditation alignment ISO15189
Vanuatu Port Vila and Santo	PPTC laboratory audit (2022)	Phil Wakem Filipo Faiga	Laboratory quality management Accreditation alignment ISO15189
Fiji (Suva)	PPTC laboratory assessment	Phil Wakem Filipo Faiga	CWM and private lab laboratory visits WHO, SPC and FNU stakeholder visits

Country	Reason for travel	PPTC consultants	Discipline/ activity
<b>Cambodia</b>	WHO Collaborating Centres of the Western Pacific Region Forum 2022	Phil Wakem John Elliot	2022 Conference
<b>Samoa</b>	PPTC Laboratory audit (2022)	Filipo Faiga	Laboratory quality management Accreditation alignment ISO15189

### Can you help?

If any New Zealand medical laboratories have items of diagnostic instrumentation that have been recently upgraded or continue to be stored in the laboratory but are surplus to requirements, the PPTC would be most grateful if such items could be donated through its Centre to Pacific Island laboratories where there is an exceptional need. Pacific laboratories have very restricted budgets and often cannot afford to replace troublesome instrumentation that continues to breakdown, and which is often discontinued because it is so outdated.

The PPTC would also welcome teaching resources in terms of wall charts, haematology case studies (stained blood films), projector slides, textbooks, and journals (within 10 years of publication) etc., for teaching purposes in the Pacific. If you no longer have a use for them, any contribution is so valuable to us.

### Please contact

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