

# **SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Social Science Department (SSD) was formerly the Sociology/Geography and History departments merged into the SSD as it is currently known. This change came about as a result of the last external review for the Faculty of Arts (FOA) in 2005. So, the SSD has been in existence for almost 9 years now.

The department subscribes to the University vision and mission as stated in the 2014 academic Calendar and the National University of Samoa Strategic Plan. The University's mission and vision is best described in the context of the government of Samoa Strategy for the Development of Samoa 2012-2016 under Priority Area 2 Social Policies and Key Outcome 7: Improved Focus on Access to Education, training and Learning Outcome. The department's activities and academic programmes are therefore aligned to fulfill the National University of Samoa's Strategic goals and objectives which are as follows:

Strategic Goal [1]: Commit to quality and creativity in education through -

1. Providing a distinctive 'NUS Learning experience' of high quality through the provision of excellence in teaching and learning and extracurricular activities.
2. Maintaining and enhancing high quality, innovative teaching and learning environment.
3. Incorporating quality programmes relevant to the changing needs of students and the community.

Strategic Goal [2]: Recognised nationally and internationally as the premier research institute in Samoa through-

1. Developing a dynamic research portfolio that will facilitate cutting edge to practical application of best practices.
2. Attracting and developing high caliber staff and higher degree students to drive research performance and recognition.
3. Building strong national and international partnerships to enhance research capacity and attract research funding.

Strategic Goal [3]: Nurture versatile, innovative and high caliber staff through-

1. Committing time and resources to staff professional development
2. Developing a mutually supportive, collaborative, rewarding and equitable working environment.

Strategic Goal [4]: Foster strong partnerships and community engagement through –

1. NUS-Community partnerships in research
2. Providing quality career assistance, meeting industry expectations and ensuring graduates have work place ready skills
3. Developing and maintaining durable relationships with local, regional, national and international stakeholders

Strategic Goal [5]: Optimize the use of existing resources and diversify sources of funds through –

1. Maintaining best practice for efficiency and sustainability in asset and resource utilization.

In short, the course offerings, staff professional development and all department activities are geared towards supporting the Faculty in its role to ensure we provide professional training to meet the human resource needs of Samoa.

### **SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT: STAFFING**

There are 11 staff members as follows:

1. Susana Taua'a - Senior Lecturer Geography & Head of Department. On Professional Development Leave [PhD on Campus at NUS]
2. Anita Latai [ On Professional Development Leave (PhD – Otago )]
3. Louise Matai'a [On Professional Development Leave (PhD – Victoria Wellington)]
4. Lucia Senio - History Lecturer Grade 3 on Professional Development Leave for Master of Development Studies at NUS
5. Fa'aafu Yoshida – Anthropology & Sociology lecturer grade 3. Also studying for the Master of Development Studies at NUS
6. Rosa Filoi – Sociology lecturer grade 3. Attending the APTC Certificate for Adult Learning Programme as part of her Professional Development.
7. Orana Senara – Sociology Lecturer grade 3 also attending the Oloamanu Certificate of Adult Learning block course.
8. Peleuila Itula – Sociology Lecturer grade 3 also teaching some History Courses. Attending the APTC Certificate for Adult Learning Programme
9. Tuileva Tofa – Geography Lecturer grade 3. Attending the APTC Certificate for Adult Learning Programme
10. Helen Stowers – Sociology Lecturer Grade 1 & PhD scholar from Auckland University
11. Tracey Mikaele – Sociology Lecturer Grade 2

Essentially, there is (1) Senior Lecturer (geography), (1) Grade 1 lecturer (Sociology), (1) Grade 2 lecturer (Sociology) and (6) grade 3 lecturers (Sociology& Geography).

Refer to individual staff CVs for further details.





**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Susana Taua'a	<b>2. Village:</b>	Vaivase-tai
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	15,10,1956	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Head of department: Social Science
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	1994		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
BA (Hons) & MA	Geography	The Flinders University of South Australia	1990 & 1992
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
PhD Candidate (NUS) 2014			
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
(1) Tourism Issues in the Pacific in Politics, development and Security in Oceania ANU E Press 2013			
(2) Aging and the Universal non-contributory pension scheme in Samoa. Journal of Samoan Studies 2011			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HGE200	Society & Space	Sem.1	
HGE201	Coastal Processes	Sem. 2	
HGE300	Tourism in a Globalizing world	Sem.1	
HGE202	Rural Geography	Sem2	
HGE301	Environmental Geography	Sem 2	
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>			
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HGE200	Society & Space	Sem.1	
HGE201	Coastal Processes	Sem. 2	
HGE300	Tourism in a Globalizing world	Sem.1	
HGE202	Rural Geography	Sem2	
HGE301	Environmental Geography	Sem 2	





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STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Helen Tiaoalii Tanielu-Stowers	<b>2. Village(s):</b>	Vaiala, Saleaula, Safotu, Lelepa, Tuanai, Moataa, Gautavai
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	10 October 1972	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Lecturer Grade 1, Sociology
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	1997-2009 and January 2014 - Present		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
Master of Arts	Sociology	University of Auckland	2003
Doctorate Studies (Currently completing)	Health Science	University of Auckland	
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
Endnote		University of Auckland	2001
WHO ASSIST Questionnaire implementation		University of Auckland	March 2011
SPSS Program (Quantitative) training		University of Auckland	May 2011
Qualitative Research intensive course		University of Auckland	July – November 2012
NVivo Program (Qualitative) training		University of Auckland	August 2012
Refworks (Referencing Programme)		University of Auckland	March 2013
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
Master of Arts (July 2000-June 2002)		Completed a Master of Arts (Hons) in 2002	
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
2 Pending publications not yet in print:			

McCool, J., Freeman, B. & Tanielu, H (2014), 'Media use and awareness of tobacco representations amongs Samoan Youth.'

Tanielu, H., Newcombe, D & Nosa, V (2014), 'ASSIST in Pacific Peoples: Substance abuse stories.'

**10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):**

Course Code:	Course Title:	Semester Offered:
HSO303	Research Paper	1
HSO301	Development and Social Change	1
HHI301	Selected Topics in Samoan History	1
HSO302	Sociology of Development and Change	2
HSO300	Theory and Method	2

**11. Courses you Taught in the past:**

Course Code	Course Title:	Semester Offered:
HSO001	Society and Culture	
HSO002	Pacific Island Societies	
HSO100	Introduction to Sociology	
HSO101	Pacific Island Issues	
HSO102	Introduction to Social research Methods	
HSO200	Social theory	
HSO201	Social Research Methods	
HSO202	Sociology of Marriage and Family	
HSO203	Social Inequality	
HSO300	Theory and Method	
HSO303	Research Paper	





**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Lucia Senio Chung Kwan	<b>2. Village:</b>	Moamoa
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> February 1976	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	History Lecturer
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	2011 (with the English Department)		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
Bachelor of Arts Diploma Teaching	English and History	The University of Waikato, Hamilton, NZ	October 2000
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
None		-----	-----
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
I have enrolled in the Postgraduate Diploma in Development Studies in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester of 2013 and am continuing with the study. I have applied for PDL as a full-time staff and part-time student.		I am intending to complete the Postgraduate Diploma at the end of 2014 and continue with the Masters with the hope that it will be completed in 2016. This will help me not only with my teaching of the higher levels of the degree but to be able to carry out researches and do publications.	
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
None			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HHI001	Revolutionary Forces since 1500	1	
HHI206	National, Regional & Global Governance	1	
HHI002	Pacific History	2	
HHI105	A Modern World: 1500 to the Present	2	
HHI202	Theory and Methods of History	2	
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>			
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HHI001	Revolutionary Forces since 1500		
HHI002	Pacific History		
HHI104	Contributions of Ancient Civilizations		
HHI105	A Modern World: 1500 to the Present		





**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Tracey Lei Mikaele	<b>2. Village:</b>	Manono-uta/Nu'ufou
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	19 March 1985	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Sociology Lecturer G2
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	25 February 2013		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
- Masters - BA - Dip	- International Social Development - Social Work and Community Development - Justice Administration	University of New South Wales University of Otago Queensland TAFE	March 2012 December 2010 December 2002
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
Workshop on Intellectual Property for Development Workshop on Basic Budgeting for Women Workshop on Sampling tool for Research Workshop on Convention on the Elimination of all Discrimination Against Women Training for Rural Women Workshop on Convention on Rights of the Child Trainings for communities.		Oloamanu Centre Ministry of Finance Statistics Bureau of Samoa Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development	2012 2012 2012 2012
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO102	Introduction to Social Research Methods	Semester 1	
HSO200	Social Theory	Semester 1	
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>			
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO303	Research Paper	Semester 1, 2013	



HSO301	Sociology of Development and Social Change	Semester 1, 2013
HSO203	Social Inequality	Semester 1, 2013
HSO300	Theory and Method	Semester 2, 2013
HSO302	Environmental Sociology	Semester 2, 2013
HSO201	Social Research Methods	Semester 2, 2013



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STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Fa'aafu T. Matafeo-Yoshida	<b>2. Village:</b>	Lelata/Vaivase-uta
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	30 March, 1970	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Lecture Grade 3, Sociology
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	2013		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
Bachelor of Arts	Social Anthropology	James Cook University	1994
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
Certificate of Young Adult Teaching		IOT	2003
Certificate of Desktop Publishing		SPREP	1997
First Aid Certificate		Red Cross IOT	2001
First 6 <sup>th</sup> Kyu Aikido Samoa - Shinryukan		Aikido Samoa	2014
Workshop on Project Implementation and Evaluation		IOT	2005
Workshop on Food Processing		IOT	2005
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
Post Graduate Diploma Development Studies		2014	
Masters in Development Studies Programme		2015	
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
SUBMISSION OF A DOCUMENTARY REVIEW FOR JAFNUS 2014 (E au le Ina'ilau a Tama'ita'i)			
SUBMISSION OF A POEM FOR JAFNUS 2014			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO100	Introduction to Sociology	1	
HAN001	Peoples and Cultures of the Pacific	1&2	
HSO202	Sociology of Marriage and Family	2	
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>			
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO100	Introduction to Sociology	1	
HAN001	Peoples and Cultures of the Pacific	1&2	
HSO200	Social Theory	2	
HSO001	Society and Culture	1	
HSO202	Sociology of Marriage and Family	2	





**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Orana Senara	<b>2. Village:</b>	Falelatai
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	30/08/1989	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Grade 3 Lecturer
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	2011		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
BA	Geography/Sociology	USP	2010
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
"Natural" Hazards in an Urban Context Flooding Risk in Nadi Town		USP (SOPAC)	October 2009
Education for Sustainable Development, Youth Leadership and Governance Forum		USP	September 2009
Academic English for Tertiary Students Course		USP	February 2008
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
None			
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
None			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO001	Society and Culture	1	
HGE001	Physical Geography	1	
HSO002	Pacific Island Societies	2	
HGE002	Human Geography	2	
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>			
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO001	Society and Culture	1	
HSO002	Pacific Island Societies	2	
HGE001	Physical Geography	1	
HGE002	Human Geography	2	
HSO101	Pacific Island Social Issues	2	



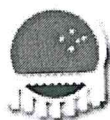
**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Tuileva Tupefou Tuileva Tofa	<b>2. Village:</b>	Saipipi/Maugafiafia, Vailele Uta
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Geography Lecturer (Grade 3)
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	2013		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (e.g. December 2011)
BA	Geography & Sociology	University of the South Pacific	2012
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (e.g. July 2009)
Natural Hazards in an Urban Context – Flooding Risk in Nadi Town		-SOPAC	2009
Policy Development & Research on Land Development		-Land Management Division, MNRE	2011
Apia Spatial Plan		-PUMA – MNRE	2011
Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change – Cost Benefit Analysis		-SPREP	2012
Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities Workshop		-MWCSO	2012
Regulatory Enforcement & Compliance		-PUMA, MNRE	2012
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
NONE			
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
NONE			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			



Course Code:	Course Title:	Semester Offered:
HGE001	Foundation Physical Geography	Semester 1
HGE100	Introduction to Physical Geography	Semester 1
HGE002	Foundation Human Geography	Semester 2
HGE101	Introduction to Human Geography	Semester 2
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>		
Course Code	Course Title:	Semester Offered:
HGE001	Foundation Physical Geography	Semester 1
HGE001	Foundation Human Geography	Semester 2
HGE101	Introduction to Human Geography	Semester 2





**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Peleuila	<b>2. Village:</b>	Saaga Siumu
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	16 August 1986	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	NUS Lecturer, Grade 3
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	2013		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
1. <b>Bachelor of Art</b> (Pacific Studies & Sociology), Auckland University	<b>BA</b> (Pacific Studies & Pacific Studies)	<b>BA</b> – Auckland University, New Zealand	<b>BA</b> – 2009
2. <b>LLB</b> (Waikato University)	<b>LLB</b> (Taxation, Commercial Law)	<b>LLB</b> – Waikato University, New Zealand	<b>LLB</b> – 2011
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)	
<b>WTO</b> (with Ministry for Revenue & Customs & Rules of Origin (with Ministry for Revenue & Customs)	Fiji	2012	
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
Currently enrolling in <b>CAT</b> (Certificate in Adult Teaching) course 101.			
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
N/A			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			

<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>
HHI 104	Contributions of Ancient Civilisation	1 (Lecturer)
HHI 001	Revolutionary Forces Since 1500	1 (Tutor)
HSO 001	Society and Culture	1 (Tutor)
HSO 102	Introduction to Social Research Methods	1 (Tutor)
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>		
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A





**FACULTY OF ARTS  
STAFF CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>1. Staff Name:</b>	Rosa Filoi	<b>2. Village:</b>	Palisi
<b>3. Date of Birth:</b>	26 OCT 1989	<b>4. Current Position:</b>	Sociology Lecturer Grade 3
<b>5. Year Commenced at NUS</b>	2011		
<b>6. Highest Qualification.</b> (e.g. BA/PGDipSc/MSc/PhD)	<b>Major(s):</b> (e.g. English Lit./History)	<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. NUS)	<b>Year Awarded:</b> (December 2011)
BA	Criminology & Sociology	Victoria University of Wellington, NZ	December 2010
<b>7. Other Trainings Done before Joining NUS</b> (e.g. Workshop on Using Endnotes)		<b>Institution:</b> (e.g. USP)	<b>Year:</b> (July 2009)
None			
<b>8. Recent Professional Development Leave while at NUS:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Outcomes</b>	
<b>9. Recent Publications: (Give 3 recent ones.)</b>			
<b>10. Courses you are Teaching this year (2014):</b>			
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO001	Society and Culture	Semester 1	
HSO203	Social Inequality	Semester 1	
HSO002	Pacific Island Societies	Semester 2	
HSO101	Pacific Island Issues	Semester 2	
<b>11. Courses you Taught in the past:</b>			
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Semester Offered:</b>	
HSO001	Society and Culture	Semester 1, 2011 – 2013	
HSO002	Pacific Island Societies	Semester 2, 2011 – 2013	
HSO101	Pacific Island Issues	Semester 2, 2013	

### **SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT STAFF**

There are several staffing issues that need to be addressed and hopefully this external review will provide some guidance and/or advice. Firstly, 70 percent of the lecturers in the SSD are grade 3. According to the Staffing Policy, grade 3 lecturers are not required to engage/conduct research, but, should they desire to advance into higher grading [ 1 and 2], then they need to publish articles, papers etc.. Which normally require carrying out some kind of research work .The dilemma for the department is that, grade 3 lecturers cannot be allocated higher level courses [ 200-300 degree courses] to teach, primarily due to (a) lack of experience in teaching which explains why they are encouraged to take up the APTC and Oloamanu CAT [Certificate of Adult Teaching] courses. (b) SSD grade 3 lecturers (66%) were recruited immediately after completing their first degrees. So, there is a need to build their capacity in terms of knowledge and pedagogy in the social sciences. But, given staff shortages [ since 2 senior staff are on professional development leave overseas beginning 2013], four (4) grade 3 lecturers have been allocated 100 and 200 level courses to teach since 2013. The department has the option of hiring part timers to teach the 200 & 300 level courses, but we have had some problems with part time staff in the past [ for instance, unreliability due to primary commitment/overseas travels, inability to meet deadlines such as posting student coursework marks prior to final exams, timely submission of final results]. Staff shortage meant that, the 500 level courses that were supposed to have been offered by the Social Science Department under the MA Samoan Studies program have been suspended due to the lack of qualified staff with the appropriate level of qualifications to teach these courses.

Attracting staff with post graduate qualifications has been a long standing problem for the department. Again this could be an institution wide problem, but it does impact on fulfilling our teaching and research obligations as stated earlier. Somehow, it can be a 'bottleneck' in achieving the University's vision of becoming an innovative center of excellence in research. Perhaps, the salary structures of academics need to be aligned with other government ministries and professions to attract and retain post graduate degree holders.

### **SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT COURSES**

Students enrolled in the Faculty of Arts Diploma and Bachelor Programs have a selection of courses in Geography, History and Sociology to choose their majors and minors from [refer to pp 146-148 and 157 - 164 NUS Calendar 2014]. Students can opt for a combination of single or double majors in Geography, History and Sociology or a combination of majors and minors from within the Social Sciences and outside the Social Sciences that suit the students' career choice. In essence, the students are not restricted in the range of courses they take, as long as they fulfill the prerequisites and criteria of entry into their selected courses or programs. Table 1 provides a summary of courses offered by the Social Science Department.



**Table 1: Social Science Courses.**

Anthropology	Geography	History	Sociology
HAN001: Peoples & Cultures of the Pacific	HGE001: Physical Geography	HHI001: Revolutionary Forces since 1500	HSO001:Society & Culture
	HGE002: Human Geography	HHI002:Pacific History	HSO002:Pacific Island Societies
	HGE100: Introduction to Human Geography	HHI104:Contributions of Ancient Civilizations	HSO100:Introduction to Sociology
	HGE101: Introduction to Human Geography	HHI105:A Modern World:1500 to the Present	HSO101:Pacific Island Social Issues
	HGE200:Society and Space	HHI202: Theory & Methods of History	HSO102:Introduction to Social Research Methods
	HGE201: Coastal Processes	HHI206:National,Regional & Global Governance	HSO200:Social Theory
	HGE202:Rural Geography	HHI301:Selected Topic in Samoan History or Governance	HSO201:Social Research Methods
	HGE300:Geography of Tourism in a Globalizing World	HHI307: Globalization Past and Present	HSO202: Sociology of Marriage & the Family
	HGE301: Environmental Geography		HSO203:Social Inequality
			HSO300: Theory&Method
			HSO301:Sociology of Development & Change
			HSO302:Environmental Sociology
			HSO303:Research Paper

The program structure [see p. 145 Academic Calendar 2014] and the course offerings have been designed to:

- 1) Support the University's mission particularly in relation to meeting the country's human resource needs.
- 2) Combine intellectual training with character building for citizenship and service.



For the purpose of this review, individual lecturers have been asked to submit a written comment on the courses they are teaching in terms of content analysis, strengths, weaknesses, and how to improve on the overall quality and delivery of our programme [refer to attachments]. Course reports by individual lecturers give them the opportunity to contribute to the overall content and direction of our programme. This option was not available in the last external review; hence some members were left out of the loop. As a result, as we have realized now, is that once the lecturers leave the department or University either retired or on professional development leave] there seems to be a gap where new lecturers are expected to fill in. This is what the department is experiencing with the History and Sociology courses. These course reports are attached as appendices.

### **STUDENT ENROLMENT:**

Information contained in the various NUS annual and quarterly reports provided some statistics on NUS enrolment trends across the various Faculties as indicated in Table 2.

Table 2: Institute of Higher Education Enrolment by Faculty

Faculty	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	AVG
CSS		12	20 67%	24 20%	12 -50%	17 12%
FOA	259	236 -9%	230 -3%	240 4%	322 34%	257.4 7%
FOBE	525	372 -29%	368 -1%	331 -10%	429 30%	405 -3%
FOE	532	546 3%	502 -8%	536 7%	576 7%	538.4 2%
FONHS	107	88 -18%	99 13%	72 -27%	81 13%	89.4 -5%
FOS	151	122 -19%	161 32%	142 -12%	155 9%	146.2 3%
FCG/NAW	171	169 -1%	133 -21%	96 -28%	82 -15%	130.2 -16%
TOTAL	1745	1545	1513	1441	1657	1583.6

Source: The National University of Samoa; Third Quarterly Report FY 2009/2010, p7.

The 2010 enrolments are for semester 1 only. The statistics show a sizable increase in enrolments particularly in the Faculty of Arts and FOBE, however, the report does not state any particular reason(s) to explain this increase.

**GRADUATES:**

Table 3 sums up the number of students graduating from the Faculty of Arts three main programmes – Foundation Certificate, Diploma and Degree. Students graduating with a diploma can exit with a diploma or continue onto the degree programme which explains the fluctuating trends in the number of BA graduates from 2008 to 2011.

Table 3: Graduates from the Faculty of Arts Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor Programs 2006-2013.

Programme	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
FCA	76	80	69	79	76	102	113	133
D.Arts	28	25	28	18	19	32	4	-
BA	15	32	22	29	21	25	32	22

Source: Student Administration Officer

**RESOURCES :**

The library is a critical component to support our programme. But, since the last external review, the same issues [lack of study space for students, shortage of computers for student use, out dated and/or delayed text orders due to underfunding or no funding available] are recurring. There is an urgent need to prioritize learning resources if we are serious about delivering quality education. The Vice Chancellor acknowledged the same problem of congested library space in his report (NUS Third Quarterly Report FY 2009/2010: p.10).

**GENERAL SUPPORT:**

The department budget is derived from the Faculty of Arts and the University overall allocation from the government. A copy of the National University of Samoa annual accounts for 2010-2011 is attached to gauge an overall view of the financial position of the University and where the Faculty of Arts and the Social science department fit in (Refer Appendix 3). As is evident from these financial reports, the department has to compete with other sections for funding. This in itself can be an obstacle in the efficient and effective delivery of our programme.

Feedback from course and lecturer evaluations conducted by the student administration section has not been forthcoming in the last 5 years. Yet these reports/analysis are critical in improving lecturer performance and strengthening the delivery of our course programmes.

In the same vein, (s)lack of support /cooperation from comparable staff can be an unnecessary frustration. For example, trying to access the data needed for this report has been quite a challenge. As a result there are gaps in the data given the poor response from the student administration. We suggest an interview with the Student administration personnel is the best option to access the missing data on student enrollment by gender, pass rates, and the graduate tracking survey.<sup>1</sup>

### **CONCLUDING STATEMENTS:**

As outlined above, the Social Science Department has been in existence for almost 9 years. Since the last external review, we have had only one (1) staff member with a PhD who has since resigned. Since then, 4 department members are pursuing doctoral studies, 2 enrolled in the Master of Development Studies and the rest of the department staff are undergoing adult teaching and assessment training with the Oloamanu and Australian Pacific Training Center (APTC).

The variety of course offerings in the Social Science are broad enough to meet potential employer needs. But there is scope for new, relevant and practical courses to enhance the skill level of our graduates in the highly competitive job market.

In order for the department to play its part in fulfilling the University's strategic objectives, we need to be adequately supported in terms of funding and cooperation from other sections of the institution. This much needed support can only be garnered through an external review of our programme.

### **REFERENCES:**

The government of Samoa Strategy for the Development of Samoa 2012 – 2016.

The National University of Samoa Annual Accounts 201-2011

The National University of Samoa Calendar 2014

The National University of Samoa Strategic Plan 2010-2020

The National University of Samoa Third Quarterly Report FY 2009/2010

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<sup>1</sup> The missing data is attached as Appendix 4. It was released 12 hours before the deadline for this report.