

JDP SoL Staff and Students Partake in Conference

The University of Fiji's Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDP SoL) staff and students took part in the Pacific Law and Culture Conference at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand from July 2-4, 2018.

The theme of the 2018 conference was "Voices of the Pacific in a Globalised World" and the conference was aimed towards increasing an understanding of Pacific legal issues and towards strengthening relationships between Pacific legal scholars and students.

Mr. Ronald Singh, Senior Lecturer in Law, presented a paper on "Legal and Cultural Challenges to Wealth Creation in Fiji". In his paper, Mr. Singh advanced the argument 'that legislation and indigenous cultural disposition conspire to hinder indigenous wealth creation and maximization, legislation is either non-existent, or restrict property rights, while the use of cultural elements for individual economic gains is tabooed'.

Moreover, Mr. Shivendra Nath, presented a paper on "Impediments of the International Criminal Court and the Pacific". This paper focused on the principles and the policies of ICC, difficulties in prosecution against the backdrop of prosecution in African States, its constant struggle with State sovereignty and the proposal towards encouraging cooperation in the Pacific Island states that is consistent with International Law".

Mr. Waisele Tabuya chaired a session on Customary Law. Three students, Joseph Rao, Elizabeth Rao and Nayna Kasturi took part in the moot event. The team was coordinated by Ms. Varsha Bano. The students were not able to qualify for the finals, however, moot team members had an opportunity to interact with participants from other attending Universities and build on their networks.

The JDP SoL hopes that International mooting would become an annual event in future as it gives a profile to the University, the Law School, International exposure to staff and students and greater initiatives for future mooters.