

UniFiji awarded new writing contract by international publisher

An international publisher has awarded a second book publishing contract to a UniFiji-based academic within two years. The new book will be titled *Biomass and Biofuels for Power Generation and Transportation*, and is expected to be produced by July 2021. Published by the London-based Institute of Physics (IOP), it will be available globally as an e-book and in print form at most major international book outlets.

“The award of such contracts to UniFiji academics is a sure sign that the university is gaining visibility internationally as a credible academic institution. It is proof that small does not necessarily mean lack of ability” said author and Dean of the School of Science and Technology, Professor Anirudh Singh.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Shaista Shameem said that the title of the book and its subject matter firmly places The University of Fiji on the intellectual map for innovative work on alternative fuel generation.

“There are very few experts in the region who are undertaking research of this nature and the University is proud that one of them, namely Professor Anirudh Singh, is a member of The University of Fiji Community,” she said.

The 300-page reference and postgraduate text will provide a comprehensive coverage of the theory and practice of the use of biomass and biofuels for power generation and transportation on the global scale. With enhanced interest in biomass as a source of energy, this book will provide an up-to-date, coherent reference text that is relevant to the needs of industry and academia alike. The book will come in four parts, and will include a whole section on the sustainable energy needs of developing nations, including small island developing countries such as Fiji. A special feature will be a detailed analysis of the role of energy policy in the implementation of bioenergy projects.

Singh’s first book by IOP, titled *Talking Renewables, a Renewable Energy Primer for Everyone*, was released in March 2018, and provides a clear and factual picture of the status and capabilities of renewable energy today. It is non-technological in nature, but contains enough mention of the science and technology to enable readers to investigate further.

The productive output from the UniFiji Science Department has not been limited to authored publications only. During the intervening two years, the academic team within the Department of Science led the production of an edited book published by Springer Nature. The collaboration between the UniFiji team and academic staff from the University of the South Pacific and Fiji National University, coupled with editorial support from the University of Southern Queensland’s School of Agricultural, Computational and Environmental Sciences led to the publication of the edited book titled *Translating the Paris Agreement into Action in the Pacific* by the global publisher. This reference text provides a unique insight into how a country contributes to the GHG emissions reductions target contained in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) assigned to it under the Paris Agreement. The

book was released internationally in February this year, and is available in all formats from Springer Nature outlets world-wide.

The contract between IOP Publishing Ltd and Professor Singh was signed on the 3rd of this month.

Anirudh Singh, 6 June 2020