

## Authors' biographies\*

**Kylie Anderson** – Lecturer in Politics and International Affairs in the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts & Law as well as coordinator of a number of courses in Pacific Island government and politics at the University of the South Pacific. She has published previously on human rights, gender, and security. (anderson\_k@usp.ac.fj)

**David G. Arms PhD** – Priest of St. Columban's Mission Society who, since 1970, has worked mostly in Fiji. He has conducted various elections for the Church and written extensively about Fiji's electoral system, especially on behalf of the Citizens' Constitutional Forum, of which he is currently a Director. He was an authorized observer at the Fiji elections of 1999, 2001 and 2006.

**Mosmi Bhim** – MA student in governance at the Pacific Institute of Advanced Studies in Development & Governance (PIAS-DG) at the University of the South Pacific. She was part of the University's observer mission to the 2006 Fiji election. (bhim\_ms@usp.ac.fj or mosmi\_bhim@hotmail.com)

**Jeannette Bolenga** – Fellow in Electoral Studies, PIAS-DG, University of the South Pacific. She has observed parliamentary elections in Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands and Fiji. Vice president of the Pacific Islands Political Studies Association and formerly the Vanuatu Principal Electoral Officer and a policy advisor to the Vanuatu Ministry of Internal Affairs, she holds a Master of Development Administration from the Australian National University. (bolenga\_j@usp.ac.fj)

**Apolosi Bose** – From the Yasawa Islands in Ba Province, he previously worked as a Business Development Consultant and Corporate Services Manager for the Ba Provincial Holding (BPH) Group. He has been involved with the BPH Group since 1996. He holds an LLB and a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from New Zealand and a Post-Graduate Diploma in History/Politics from USP. (bozes@connect.com.fj)

**Mahendra Chaudhry** – Leader of the Fiji Labour Party. He was Fiji's first prime minister of Indian descent until deposed in the coup of 19 May 2000 and held captive at gunpoint for 56 days. A trade unionist, he led the Fiji Public Service Association for three decades and heads the National Farmers Union. A strong

human rights advocate, committed to social justice, democracy and the rule of law, and multiracialism in Fiji.

**Alumita Durutalo** – Lecturer in the Division of Politics and International Affairs at the University of the South Pacific. She has a number of publications on contemporary Pacific politics and her research interests include political representation and customary leadership in the Pacific, contemporary politics in Melanesia, regionalism and globalization in the Pacific. (durutalo\_a@usp.ac.fj)

**Michael Field** – Journalist with the Fairfax Media in New Zealand; he has covered South Pacific politics and culture for over 30 years. A former press secretary for the then Western Samoan Government, Field spent the bulk of his career with Agence France-Presse. His publications include *Speight of Violence* (with Tupeni Baba and Onaisi Nabobo-Baba) and, most recently, *Black Saturday*, an account of New Zealand's colonial occupation of Samoa. (mjfield@clear.net.nz)

**Stewart Firth** – Head of the Pacific Centre, College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University, and Professor of Politics at the University of the South Pacific during the period 1998–2004. He has written widely on the history and politics of the Pacific and is the editor of *Globalisation and Governance in the Pacific Islands*, published by ANU E Press.

**Jon Fraenkel** – Research Fellow in Governance PIAS-DG at the University of the South Pacific. Author of *The Manipulation of Custom: From Uprising to Intervention in the Solomon Islands* (Victoria University Press & Pandanus Books, 2004). (fraenkel\_j@usp.ac.fj)

**Paul Geraghty** – Director of the Institute of Fijian Language and Culture from 1986 to 2001, and Associate Professor in Linguistics at the University of the South Pacific. Author of several books and numerous articles on Fijian and Pacific languages, culture, and history, he is also well known in Fiji as a newspaper columnist and radio and TV presenter. (geraghty\_p@usp.ac.fj)

**Graham Hassall** – Professor of Governance at the University of the South Pacific. He has been an accredited observer at general elections in Indonesia, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji Islands. (hassall\_g@usp.ac.fj)

**Brij V. Lal** – Professor of Pacific and Asian History in the Institute of Advanced Studies at The Australian National University where he has taught and researched since 1990. Lal previously taught at the universities of the South Pacific, Papua New Guinea and Hawaii at Manoa. He has written widely on the history and politics of Fiji. His latest publication is *Islands of Turmoil: Elections and Politics in Fiji* (Asia Pacific Press, Canberra). (brij.lal@anu.edu.au)

**Graham Leung** – Chairman of the Electoral Commission and a partner in Howards Law firm in Suva, Fiji. He was born on Levuka, and has previously worked in the Office of the Solicitor General, as Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations and at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. Former Chairman of the Fiji Law Society. (gleung@howardslaw.com.fj)

**Ratu Joni Madraiwiwi** – Vice President of the Republic of the Fiji Islands and Roko Tui Bau, one of the chiefly titles from the influential island of Bau, off the coast of Viti Levu. He trained as a lawyer in Australia and Canada, and worked in the Attorney General's chambers as a solicitor from 1983–1991, before becoming Permanent Arbitrator and then a High Court judge. He resigned in 2000 following the coup d'état of that year and worked in private practice until his appointment as Vice President in January 2005.

**Lynda Newland** – Lecturer in Anthropology in the School of Social Sciences at the University of the South Pacific. For her PhD, she conducted fieldwork on the state's family planning program in rural Muslim villages in West Java, Indonesia, but since arriving at USP in 2001 has engaged in research on Christianity in Fiji. (newland\_l@usp.ac.fj)

**Rae Nicholl** – Lecturer in Political Leadership, Media Politics and Women's Politics in the School of Social Sciences at the University of the South Pacific. Before joining USP, she worked at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and spent a period as a Fulbright Scholar in the United States Congress. She wrote her PhD thesis on women and candidate selection in New Zealand, Guam and South Africa. (nicholl\_r@usp.ac.fj)

**Robert Norton** – Honorary Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Anthropology at Macquarie University in Sydney, where he taught from 1969 until 2004. He began researching the politics of race and ethnicity in Fiji in 1966. His book *Race and Politics in Fiji* was first published by University

of Queensland Press in 1977, and in a revised edition in 1990. He has also published numerous papers on Fiji in various academic journals. (robert.norton@scmp.mq.edu.au)

**Samisoni Pareti** – Writer for the regional magazine, *Islands Business*, and is the Fiji correspondent for ABC's international radio service, Radio Australia. He began his career at national radio in 1986 and covered the two coups in Fiji. He has also worked at *The Fiji Times*, commercial radio FM96, the Pacific news service, Pacnews, and the *Fiji Sun*. He writes about politics in the Pacific as well as about issues such as HIV/AIDS and the environment. (spareti@unwired.com.fj)

**Biman Prasad** – Associate Professor and Head of the School of Economics at the University of the South Pacific, Manager of the Employment and Labour Market Programme at the University and a Director of the Fiji Islands Revenue and Customs Authority. He has a PhD from the University of Queensland. He has extensive experience in the Pacific region, and has published numerous articles on Pacific Island economies. (chand\_b@usp.ac.fj)

**Jonathon Prasad** – PhD candidate and tutor in Hinduism at Lancaster University, UK. His research examines the construction and uses of Hindu identity in Fiji. He previously conducted research in Fiji on the 1996 constitutional review process. His other research interests are the relationships of both economics and mental health to religion. He was previously employed as a social policy consultant by the British government, and a political researcher for the BBC. (jonathon.prasad@gmail.com)

**Laisenia Qarase** – Prime Minister of Fiji. He took up the post on 4 July 2000 and subsequently formed the Soqosoqo Duavata ni Lewenivanua (SDL) to successfully contest general elections in 2001 and 2006. He was born on Vanuabalavu in the Lau Group, and educated at Suva Grammar School and Auckland University. He served as Managing Director of the Development Bank (1983–98), and then the Merchant Bank of Fiji (1998–99), before becoming a Senator and then Prime Minister.

**Steven Ratuva** – Political sociologist and Senior Fellow in Governance at PIAS-DG at the University of the South Pacific, and also President of the Pacific Islands Political Studies Association. His areas of research and publications

include security, civil–military relations, political parties, political thought, affirmative action and development. (ratuva\_s@usp.ac.fj)

**Robbie Robertson** – La Trobe University development historian, Professor and Director of Development Studies, PIAS-DG, University of the South Pacific. He is co-author of *Government by the Gun: The Unfinished Business of Fiji's 2000 Coup* (Pluto, 2001) and author of *The Three Waves of Globalization* (Zed Books & Fernwood, 2003; Alianza, 2005). (r.robertson@latrobe.edu.au)

**Baro Saumaki** – Senior analyst with the Capital Market Development Authority, Suva, Fiji. He has a BA in Economics and an MBA from the University of the South Pacific.

**Kesaia Seniloli** – Senior Lecturer in the School of Geography, Faculty of Islands and Oceans, at the University of the South Pacific. She previously served both on the Fiji Constituency Boundaries Commission (1996–97; 1997–1998) and on the Electoral Commission (December 1999–December 2004). (seniloli\_k@usp.ac.fj)

**Suliana Siwatibau** – Volunteer for general community services through membership of governing and advisory bodies of several national and regional NGOs and intergovernmental bodies. She is also a freelance consultant on issues of resource management and community development, and has a long-term interest in women's development and rights issues. (siwatibau @connect.com.fj)

**Morgan Tuimaleali'ifano** – Lecturer in the Division of History, Faculty of Arts and Law, University of the South Pacific. His research focuses on chiefs and the chiefly system in the Pacific, especially in Samoa, Fiji and Tonga, and his most recent book is *O Tama A Aiga: The Politics of Succession to Samoa's Paramount Titles* (IPS Publications, Suva, 2006). (morgan.tuimalealiifano@usp.ac.fj)

**Anare Tuitoga** – Instructional Designer with the University of the South Pacific Distance and Flexible Learning Support Centre and also a History lecturer. He previously taught at the University's Marshall Islands Campus, and has an MA in History-Politics. He is a native of Nasau village and belongs to the *matagali* of Colata in the *tikina* of Naloto in the *yasana* of Wainibuka in Northern Tailevu. (tuitoga\_a@usp.ac.fj)

**Piccolo Willoughby** – Legal Officer for the Citizens’ Constitutional Forum, an NGO based in Suva. He is also a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of Fiji. Piccolo came to Fiji in 2004 as a volunteer with Australian Volunteers International. He holds an LLB (Honours First Class) and a BA (Major in Philosophy), from the University of Sydney in 2002 and 1998, respectively. (piccolo\_willoughby@ccf.org.fj)

**The ‘yellow bucket’** – A weekly column on Fiji politics and national affairs that can be found on [fjivillage.com](http://fjivillage.com). Inspiration for the column is found, like many things in Fiji, around a yellow bucket of *yaqona* or kava – hence the name. Launched early in 2003 it has gained a reputation for providing astute observation of Fiji politics and its forecasts have proved remarkably accurate in recent years. Authorship of the column is credited to an editorial board that gathers regularly around the yellow bucket.

\* Author information current at December 2006.