



CEO of THE-ICE visits USP

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(From L-R): USP Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Rajesh Chandra, Chief Executive Officer of the International Centre for Excellence in Tourism & Hospitality Education, Ms Pauline Tang and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Learning Teaching and Student Services, Professor Richard Coll, with the accreditation certificate.

The Chief Executive Officer of the International Centre of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education (THE-ICE), Ms Pauline Tang visited [The University of the South Pacific](#) (USP) on 26 May 2016.

THE-ICE is a not-for-profit organisation with a global membership network of over 33 leading tourism hospitality and education institutions from 14 countries which specialises in the accreditation of higher education programmes in tourism, hospitality and events at a range of top quality institutions around the world.

Accompanying Ms Tang was the Project Manager of THE-ICE, Ms Jane Gentle and they visited the University's [School of Tourism and Hospitality Management](#) (STHM) and [Pacific Technical and Further Education's](#) (Pacific TAFE) Pacific Fusion Restaurant. The duo also paid a visit to the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Rajesh Chandra, and presented to him a certificate of THE-ICE accreditation to Pacific TAFE's Certificate III in Commercial Cookery.

In welcoming Ms Tang, Professor Chandra said that the partnership between the two institutions has, so far, worked in a very constructive way.

He thanked THE-ICE for working with USP to improve its quality and certifying the programmes offered at the University.

Professor Chandra further said that tourism composes the largest component of Pacific Island economies and having high quality human resources is crucial for the region to take fuller advantage of all the opportunities.

Ms Tang said that she was delighted to visit the University, adding that, "we are privileged to come to an institution, which is part of a region where tourism is a very important sector in the economy."

She further added that students from STHM participate in annual student benchmarking survey, and she is impressed with the way USP has been serving its students according to the positive reports.

Head of STHM, Professor Marcus Stephenson said that the visit by THE-ICE was important for STHM as the School is preparing for re-validation of full accreditation to THE-ICE in 2017.

"It was flattering to be reminded that our student survey results for 2015 were very positive and we aim to continue to ensure that student satisfaction and student perception levels are of a high standard," he added.

As part of her visit, Ms Tang also delivered a public lecture on "*Education Excellence and THE-ICE*" at Pacific TAFE.

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