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The National University of Samoa (NUS) community will now enjoy a more advanced and manageable information and communication technology network for the years to come.



This was made possible through a technical assistance of about 40 manageable CISCO switches and a server that were fully funded and supported by the Network Startup Resource Centre (NSRC) based at the University of Oregon.

Acknowledging the assistance was the NUS Vice Chancellor and President, Prof. Fui Tu'ua Ilaoa Asofou So'o who has been at the forefront of driving the university's vision to become internationally recognized.

"We always look for ways to improve our network service to our students and our community and this equipment takes us a long way," said Prof. Fui.

The set of equipment according to Prof Fui came out of the network of the Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) with which NUS also has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). "Though the equipment did not come directly under that MOU but I wish thank (VUW) for making these (equipment) available to help our internet and server," added Prof Fui.

Part of the new set of switches and a new server have been installed since the arrival of two NSRC network engineers last weekend, who have been assisting and training the NUS ICT staff.

"We have configured a server that we can use to see how many users, how much traffic and it really manages links in and out," said Dean Pemberton, NSRC Network Engineer and Trainer. "Not only it allows the university to manage the internet bandwidth that it has today but brings it also to a stage where it is ready to accept more internet as well."

Pemberton and colleague Philip Smith's trip to Samoa was fully funded by the University of Oregon and had paid for equipment's shipment to Samoa.

With Samoa's plans around the Samoa Internet Exchange (SIX), the NUS can now house a much broader network system.

"Hopefully we can now deploy these so that the network here can grow in size but also a little bit more manageable as well," added Pemberton. "We can now deploy such infrastructure and management systems like this that will make (NUS) a lot closer to being able to join SIX."

About NSRC

The Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC) is a [nonprofit organization](#), based at the [University of Oregon](#), that supports deployment of Internet research and education networks in academic institutions and non-governmental organizations throughout the Asia Pacific region, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and newly Independent States. NSRC receives major funding and in-kind donations from the [National Science Foundation](#) (NSF), [Google](#) and [Google.org](#), [Cisco](#), [O'Reilly Media](#), [Vint Cerf](#), the [Richard M. Karp](#) Foundation, [IDRC](#), [ISOC](#), and many other institutional and private donors.

In 1988, Randy Bush and [John Klensin](#) began providing pro bono technical support to network engineers in southern Africa. The program was formalized in 1992 with a grant from the US National Science Foundation, and activities expanded to Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Morocco, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Togo, and many others. NSRC officially moved to the University of Oregon in 1996 and operated as a service of the Computing Center until 2011. The Center is currently administered as a collaboration of the University Libraries and the Office of the Vice-President for Research and Innovation.

NSRC provides funding for different Network Operator Groups throughout the world and in-kind equipment and publications necessary to establish Internet connections. As of 2011, over in-kind support valued at over \$40 million USD had been provided in more than 100 countries. The NSRC's educational programs include workshops, seminars, hands-on technical training and short courses around the world and at the University of Oregon. Beginning in 2012, NSRC has added digital library development and archival practice to its portfolio of workshops.

Misa Vicky Lepou is a media and journalism lecturer and website news administrator at the National University of Samoa. For more information, visit us on www.nus.edu.ws, or visit NUS Media and Journalism School and NUS Facebook Pages.



NUS expands ICT network: NUS VC & President Prof. Fui Tu'ua Īlaoa Asofou So'o, NSRC Senior Network Engineer Philip Smith, NSRC Network Engineer and Trainer Dean Pemberton and NUS ICT Director Matā'afā Ratami Fatilua.



NUS ICT Staff Training: NSRC Senior Network Engineer Philip Smith, NUS IT Technician Kovati Simalu, NUS Team Leader Network Services Kapeni Matatia and NSRC Network Engineer and Trainer Dean Pemberton.

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