

# Critique of national & international scholarship selection in Western Province

Presented at Resource Development & Human Well Being in PNG  
Issues in the Measurement of Progress

17-19 March 2015

At Gateway Hotel, Port Moresby

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# Western Province Scholarships

The International Scholarship was introduced in 2009.

The scholarship was targeted at school leavers. Successful candidates studied at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT).

The National Scholarship was advertised in 2011.

Scholarship was open to both school leavers & non school leavers to study at tertiary institutions, technical colleges, vocational training & skills training courses at private organisations accredited with the PNG Training Council

# Background on the Scholarships

Papua New Guinea Sustainable Development Program Company (PNGSDP) introduced the scholarship scheme in line with its mandate 'To support & promote sustainable development through projects and initiatives to benefit the people of Papua New Guinea, especially the people of Western Province....' (PNGSDP Annual Report 2012, p2).

# Scholarship Eligibility Criteria

- One or both parents from Western Province
- Evidence of schooling in the province
- Exceptional good academically

# SECONDARY SCHOOLS



# 2012 SCHOOL LEAVER PROFILE

## Student Population

Secondary School	Student No.	%	Male	Female
Awaba	67	20	54	13
Daru	70	20.1	43	27
Kiunga	125	36.5	79	46
St Gabriel	80	23.4	63	17
	342	100	239	103

## Eligible for Govt Scholarship

Secondary School	Student No.	%	Eligible Students	%
Awaba	67	0	0	0
Daru	70	4.76	2	0.58
Kiunga	125	64.28	27	7.89
St Gabriel	80	30.95	13	3.8
	342	99.99	42	12.27

# Eligible for Govt Scholarship by Gender

District	School	Student No.	Eligible For Govt Scholarship	Gender	
				Male	Female
<b>Middle Fly</b>	Awaba	67	0	0	0
<b>South Fly</b>	Daru	70	2	2	0
<b>North Fly</b>	Kiunga	125	27	17	10
	St Gabriel	80	13	11	2
		342	42	30	12

# OHE & UPNG GPAs

District	School	Student No.	Met OHE GPA	%	Met UPNG GPA	%
Middle Fly	Awaba	67	0	0	0	0
South Fly	Daru	70	2	0.58	2	0.58
North Fly	Kiunga	125	27	7.89	15	4.38
	St Gabriel	80	13	3.8	2	0.58
		342	42	12.27	19	5.55



# Failed to meet OHE GPA

District	School	Student No	Failed Met OHE GPA	School Total (%)	Provincial Total (%)
Middle Fly	Awaba	67	67	100	19.59
South Fly	Daru	70	68	97	19.88
North Fly	Kiunga	125	112	83	32.75
	St Gabriel	80	67	84	19.59
		342	314		91.81

# Selection Outcome – 2012 National Scholarship

## 2012 National Scholarship

- 16 were selected from 972 applicants
- 15 non school leavers & 1 school leaver

## Distribution by study program

1. Post Graduate = 2
2. Undergraduate = 6
3. Teachers' College = 4
4. Private College = 2
5. Vocational = 2

## 2012 TESAS Scholarship

Awarded to school leavers from Western Province.

1. Universities = 6
2. Teachers' Colleges = 10
3. Technical Colleges = 9

# Selection Outcome – 2013 National Scholarship

## Screening Results

739 Applications = 426 from school leavers & 313 from non school leavers

14 were selected from 739 applicants for 2013 scholarship

## Distribution of scholarship by Study Program

University studies = 9

Business Studies = 4

Technical Training = 1

# Selection Outcome- 2013 International Scholarship

8 students were selected from 99 applicants but 2 were expelled

# Scholarship Management Issues

- High Rejection of applications because of technical, eligibility & academic considerations.
- Limited scholarship but created high expectations
- Age limit – Scholarship should focus on investing for the future.
- Gender inequality
- Inequitable distribution of the scholarship
- Uncoordinated scholarship initiatives in the province
- Scholarship selection operated in isolated from the tertiary institutions and the Office of Higher Education
- Scholarship had no link to district development priorities
- PNGSDP & Provincial Government Partnership

- Inadequate guidance assistance was given to students to ensure they were informed and realistic with their choice of study in terms of academic suitability and standard of education at RMIT in Melbourne.
- Inadequate guidance was given to students about the entry requirements of Tertiary institutions in the country.

## Question

Is it justifiable to provide scholarship for a few?

A scenic view of a lake or reservoir surrounded by lush greenery and palm trees, viewed from under a dark overhang. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The text "THANK YOU" is centered in the upper half of the image.

THANK YOU