



Oceania foundation

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As advised in the Foundation report last year the US Scholarship program organised in collaboration with ONOC is ongoing and May this year will see our first intake of athletes complete their 2-year scholarship program at Iowa Central Community College. This program has provided the opportunity for our athletes to achieve an academic qualification combined with competitive and coaching opportunities in their particular sport.

Athletes currently on scholarships at Iowa Central are :

Debra Daniels

swimming

Wala Gime

track

Sharon Kwarula

track

Cecilia Kumanalamene

track

Douglas Miller

swimming

Roy Ravana

track

Ratutira Narara

track

Millie Koyamainavure

basketball

As with any new initiative, we have experienced some setbacks and in December we were advised that the swimming program offered at Iowa Central had been abandoned. Thanks to the excellent work by our Program Co-ordinator, Dan O'Connell we have now arranged for our current swim scholars to move to Iowa Lakes Community College for their swimming program. Iowa Lakes Community College will be the new dedicated institution for our future swimmer intake and our men's track and field program will now be at Southwestern Community College,

At our forward planning meeting in January in Melbourne it was agreed that the scope of this scholarship program would be limited to individual sports of track and swimming, which is line with the original objective of the program "to raise the standard of competitive performance of athletes in the Oceania region whilst giving them an academic opportunity".

We also have students at the New Mexico Military Institute as part of a "red shirt" semester system, which offers the opportunity to enroll for one semester, and at the end of five months if they have competed well in their sport and maintained grades, hopefully they will be offered a two year



2013 Iowa Central and New Mexico Scholarship recipients: Douglas Miller, Roy Ravana Jr, Ratutira Navara, Ana Kaloucava, Alisha Dickinson, Miliakere Koyamainavure



Farewell Fiji, Hello Iowa

scholarship. There are significantly more "red shirt" offers in team sports such as basketball and volleyball. Agatha Gibbons was the first recipient of a volleyball scholarship under this program. She has just completed her two years graduating with an Associate of Arts in criminal justice. Our second recipient of this scholarship opportunity is Mere Serea. As well as pursuing her volleyball dream, she hopes to graduate as a forensic accountant.

As advised last year, Samsung has extended its commitment to the Foundation for another year and currently we are considering the establishment of a Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) program within Oceania, possibly in conjunction with the World Health Organisation (WHO) which would also be funded from our Samsung sponsorship and hopefully lay the grounds for continuance of our Samsung partnership.

We are still in discussions with the Australian Government in our bid to have the Foundation approved for Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. In November last year, we submitted a second round of information in response to specific questions from Treasury on our submission. In this follow up we highlighted

that the DGR would greatly assist the Foundation to meet its fundraising targets as any approach to corporates for funding are referred to their ancillary funds. As the Foundation does not have DGR status, it is not eligible for such funding even though this would be of minimal revenue cost to the Government.

We also again highlighted that the objectives of the Oceania Foundation are complementary to the Australian Government's policy of using sport as a means of fighting non-communicable diseases, which have become leading causes of death and disability throughout the Pacific region and in this regard the Foundation has the links to engage the involvement of local beneficiaries. Two Board meetings were held last year in June and October and the financials of the Foundation were reviewed prior to the October meeting in line with Australian governance policy. In a separate meeting involving President Mitchell and Secretary-General Blas in January we covered many aspects of the Foundation, especially the need to engage with our NOCs. Additionally with guidance from Edwina Ricci and her team the Foundation website has been

updated to include all the latest information on our scholarship program.

The current financial position of the Foundation is A\$1.4 million and our overheads continue to be held at a minimal level.

Looking forward, we are concentrating on strengthening the scholarship program and our administrative procedures as well as involving OSFO in the scholar selection process. We are also moving to introduce a new Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) program.

In closing I wish to thank Samsung, in particular S R Yoon, for their ongoing encouragement and financial support. Thanks also to the very effective team of Helen McMurray, Dennis Miller and especially Dan O'Connell whose expertise and field activities in support of the scholarship program are so very valuable.

Kevan Gosper AO
Honorary Chairman
Oceania Foundation