



MINISTRY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

The Official Launch of the Department of Higher Education, Research, Science & Technology



It gives me great pleasure to announce the official launch of the new Department of Higher Education, Research Science and Technology, or DHERST. This Department is established by the *Higher Education (General Provisions) Act 2014* and replaces the former Commission of Higher Education and Office of Higher Education.

The O'Neill/Dion Government has been investing heavily in the higher and technical education sector and achievements are now becoming evident across the sector. The launch signals a bright new era for a tertiary sector that is strategically aligned to our PNG Vision 2050.

The Department is the central coordinating agency for higher and technical education and research, science and technology in Papua New Guinea. We work in collaboration with a range of Government agencies and other partners to provide the advanced skills, knowledge and innovation required for PNG's sustainable social, economic and environmental development.

The Department has a broad range of policy, coordination, regulatory, financing, and program management responsibilities for Papua New Guinea's tertiary (post-secondary) education, encompassing both higher and technical education.

Invitations have been sent for celebrating this significant event and I now urge stakeholders to join me on **Friday 24th April 2015**.

TIME	SESSION
09:00	Arrival of Guests
09.20	Arrival of Minister for Public Service
09.30	Opening prayer and dedication for DHERST Reverend Tony Dalaka, Senior Pastor of AOG Cornerstone Church, Gordons
09.35	Welcoming remarks Professor David Kavanamur, Acting Secretary of DHERST
09.37	Opening remarks Honourable Malakai Tabar, Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology
09.45	<i>Launch of new Department of Higher Education, Research, Science & Technology</i> Honourable Sir Puka Temu, Minister for Public Service
10.00	Morning tea
10.30	<i>The emerging story of DHERST: New legislation, the National Higher and Technical Education Plan 2015-2024, and the Department's Corporate Plan 2015-2017</i> Professor David Kavanamur, Acting Secretary of DHERST
11.30	<i>Response from Government Partner</i> Mr John M Kali OBE, Secretary of Department of Personnel Management
11.35	<i>Response from PNG Vice-Chancellor Committee</i> Father Jan Czuba, President
11:40	<i>Response from international partner</i> Mr James Hall, Minister-Counsellor, Australian High Commission
11.45	<i>Closing remarks</i> Professor David Kavanamur, Acting Secretary of DHERST
12.00	Lunch

Music provided by **Mr John Warbart**.

Authorised by

Malakai Tabar, MP

Minister of Higher Education, Research Science & Technology