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American Resource Center

ARC SUVA

Newsletter

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ARC Official Opening



ARC OPENING HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday -

9.00am - 1.00pm

Tuesday, Thursday -

9.00am - 5.00pm

Closed on Saturday-Sunday,

US and Fiji Public Holidays

The [American Resource Center](#) was officially opened on February 28, 2012 by Her Excellency, US Ambassador Frankie Reed. This marks a historical event in the provision of information access not only to the Fiji communities but to the Pacific Region as well. Invited guests to the event included Chiefs of Mission from the international and regional communities, members of the Diplomatic Corps, Senior Government and NGO officials, academics, librarians and media personnel.

In delivering her address, Ambassador Reed noted that the ARC is where patrons interact with the United States of America; it is a place where one visits and learns more about American culture, values and history. At the end of the official ribbon-cutting, invited guests were given a guided tour of the ARC and the multipurpose room, followed by a photo shoot and lunch.

ROLE OF THE ARC...



Ambassador Frankie Reed with members of the Diplomatic Corps inside the American Resource Center. Below: Invited guests listen as Mike Huff briefs them on the role of the ARC. Below right: PAO, AMB. Reed and IRO

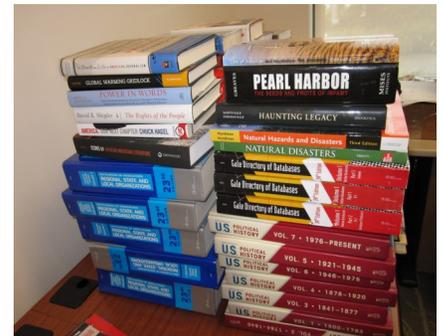
The main purpose of the ARC is to provide foreign audiences with information about American policy, history, government, society and values.

- ◆ The ARC offers internet access to patrons for browsing of e-resources and research purposes.
- ◆ The ARC also provides access to specialized information resources and answer questions about the United States or issues of global concern
- ◆ The ARC develops outreach programs which teach research skills, the effective use of internet resources and information literacy
- ◆ The ARC provides guidance, training and support to affiliated networks of American Corners and other partners in the local communities.
- ◆ The ARC cultivates relationships with local institutions, especially in government, education and information communities.



ARC Catalog ...

- ◆ The [ARC Catalog](#) is available online and holds records of all the resources in the collection.
- ◆ The ARC collection is non-circulatory with resources predominantly on the United States of America.
- ◆ New Resources are added regularly to ensure currency of collection.
- ◆ Weeding of outdated and obsolete materials are carried out annually
- ◆ The [ARC Catalog](#) can be accessed in the ARC using the available DIN computers.
- ◆ Reference resources in the ARC collection include Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Atlases, Fact Books, Directories and Biographies.
- ◆ The ARC Director can assist patrons with searching the [ARC online Catalog](#).
- ◆ Reference interviews can be conducted via phone, email, post or in person
- ◆ Access to the ARC is done through appointment with the Director at least 4 hours before visit.



Newly received resources for the ARC collection

Social Media and Disaster Communications

Presentation by Guest Speaker, Regional IRO Mr. Michael Huff.

On March 2, 2012, PAO, Mr. Douglas Morris hosted the ARC's first event following its official opening. He welcomed participants and introduced the guest speaker.

Participants ranged from emergency and security personnel to health, information and media professionals:

- ◆ DISMAC
- ◆ Fiji Red Cross Society
- ◆ Media
- ◆ Ministry of Health
- ◆ Ministry of Information
- ◆ Ministry of Prov. Dev.
- ◆ Police Department
- ◆ Universities (USP & FNU)



PAO Doug Morris welcoming the audience and introducing guest speaker IRO, Michael Huff.



Guest Speaker and IRO, Mike Huff answering questions during the Q&A session.



Mr. Michael Huff delivering his presentation on "Social media and disaster communications" at the US Embassy, Suva.

Mr. Huff shared with approximately 40 participants, his experience in managing social media communications by the US Embassy in Tokyo, Japan during the Tohoku earthquake crisis from March 11 to April 16, 2011. He offered a list of best practices for organizations to consider in planning for social communications during natural disasters. At the end of his 2-hour presentation, he answered questions from the audience. Mr. Peni Namotu from the Ministry of Health expressed his gratitude for the timely and informative presentation given the recent experience of severe flooding in the Western part of the main island this year. The presentation was well received by the audience and after the Q&A session, participants were invited to morning tea where they met with the host and guest speaker. Networking relationships were established with participants for future liaison.

ARC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES...

During the guided tour, invited guests were briefed by IRO Mike Huff on the role, services and products offered by the American Resource Center

- ◆ **ARC Info Alert** - current awareness service to a select list of contacts on the latest articles, government documents and special reports on their area of interest.
- ◆ **Subject Bibliographies** - lists of information sources on specific subjects
- ◆ **Digital Video Conferencing** - round table or large audience discussion with US experts on various subjects
- ◆ **Lectures & Training** - workshops and presentations on a range of topics on the US, US policies and research methodology
- ◆ **Reference interviews**
- ◆ **Kindle e-readers**
- ◆ **Internet Access**



CONTACT DETAILS:

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Though small in size, the ARC is great in reach; existing to bring information to the citizens of Fiji and the neighboring Pacific Islanders.

PRINT PERIODICALS...

The following are part of the ARC periodical collection.

- ◆ American History
- ◆ American Journalism Review
- ◆ American Libraries
- ◆ Art in America
- ◆ Better Homes and Garden
- ◆ Change
- ◆ Chronicle of Higher Education
- ◆ Columbia Journalism Review
- ◆ Dance Spirit
- ◆ Discover
- ◆ Ebony
- ◆ Education Digest
- ◆ Entertainment Weekly
- ◆ Entrepreneur
- ◆ Environment, Science and Policy (E-magazine)
- ◆ ESPN
- ◆ Foreign Affairs
- ◆ Foreign Policy
- ◆ Futurist
- ◆ Golf Digest
- ◆ Governing
- ◆ Good Housekeeping
- ◆ Harpers Magazine
- ◆ Harvard Business Review
- ◆ Human Rights
- ◆ Listen Magazine
- ◆ Ms. Magazine
- ◆ National Geographic
- ◆ New Yorker
- ◆ Newsweek (US ed)
- ◆ O-Magazine (Oprah)
- ◆ People magazine
- ◆ Popular science
- ◆ Readers Digest
- ◆ Scientific American
- ◆ Searcher
- ◆ Smithsonian
- ◆ Sports illustrated
- ◆ Time magazine (US ed)
- ◆ Vogue

Library Humor...

Statements which could have been made by libraries on (not) actual Insurance Claim Forms

- ◆ The sign over the library door weighs approx. 10 pounds. The chain holding the sign was rated at 50 pounds. The visitor to the library who was swinging off the chain weighed around 100 pounds. The chain snapped.
- ◆ During my morning break, I was having a cup of coffee when the phone rang. Due to staffing cuts, there was no one else to answer the phone but me. When I lifted the receiver, the caller asked for the time and as I turned my wrist, the coffee tipped over my computer which then fused out and started the fire.
- ◆ A small child had been playing in the toy library. A larger child (parents whereabouts unknown) threw a book at the smaller child. A librarian had gone to speak to the larger child when an unknown person appeared and became abusive, questioning the librarian's intelligence, qualifications, birth circumstances and personal hygiene. The librarian then threw a newspaper at this unknown person at a distance of approx. 5 yards (see attached diag), hitting them on the upper arm. Nothing more was heard until a court appearance order was received claiming assault, stating that the unknown person was now in a wheelchair as a result of injuries sustained at the library.
- ◆ Due to the presence of a shampoo and a jar of hair gel, we believe that the patron's head became jammed under the faucet in the library's restroom hand basin when he was washing his hair.

(borrowed from Warrior Librarian)

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest...Benjamin Franklin 1706-1790