Lui joined SPREP in 2005 and quickly became a cornerstone of the SPREP family. He was an outstanding person in every respect and was a deeply committed conservationist who has left a lasting legacy of many achievements throughout his distinguished career.

Lui's work on turtle conservation was truly inspiring. He was responsible for developing and implementing ground-breaking approaches for monitoring the migration paths of these iconic species. He also had a deep passion for the conservation of whales and dolphins and was the driving force behind the establishment of marine species sanctuaries in the region. This included the Samoa Exclusive Economic Zone, which was declared at Palolo Deep in 2002 during his time with the Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. This is Samoa’s whale, dolphin and shark sanctuary, and the first ever shark sanctuary in the region. In total, Lui was the architect of over 18 million square kilometres of whale and dolphin sanctuaries in the Pacific Ocean, an area larger than the total landmass of Russia.

Lui knew that conservation of marine species must go hand in hand with economic development of local communities. He was instrumental in developing whale watching guidelines to support ecotourism in Tonga and, at the time of his passing, had just started work on a regional turtle and ecotourism project.

Lui was a world expert and his achievements will stand as a beacon for marine conservation in the Pacific region for many years to come. His message was simple – whoever you are, no matter your station in life, you can and you must play a role to conserve and protect marine species and to respect them.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme proposes to establish the Lui Bell Post-Graduate Scholarship for Marine Species Conservation to honour the life and work of Lui Bell and his commitment to conservation of Pacific marine species.

The scholarship will provide financial support to Pacific island nationals undertaking studies in marine science with a focus on conservation of threatened marine species, in particular turtles, cetaceans, dugongs and sharks.

The Secretariat invites donors, partner organisations and friends of marine conservation to support the scholarship.

The funding target is to achieve a permanent minimum annual funding pool of US$60,000 to enable support for three new or continuing post-graduate students, with inauguration of the scholarship in 2014.

You can pay tribute to Lui at www.sprep.org/memorial/lui-bell
THE SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship will be awarded to:
- Pacific island students undertaking full-time post-graduate studies in marine species conservation at a recognised institution
- Students who are 40 years of age or less.

The scholarship will be awarded up to a maximum amount of US$20,000 per person each year and can be used to cover course fees and other costs directly associated with attainment of the qualification, including research work where approved by the Scholarship Board.

The scholarship will aim to provide for the entire post-graduate tenure, depending on student performance, to a maximum of three years support for an MSc and four years support for a PhD.

Administration and Operation

The administration and financial management of the scholarship will be undertaken by SPREP through a Scholarship Board (to be established), and the scholarship will be audited annually as part of the SPREP independent audit report to its members.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

You can contribute directly to the Scholarship Account:

ANZ Bank  
BSB: 10979  
Trust Account No: 4039932  
SWIFT Code: ANZ BWS WW

You can contact:  
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