



Tuesday 17th March 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## IBSUniversity Act Unanimously Passed by the National Parliament

It is with great pleasure that IBSUniversity proudly announces a momentous and historic achievement in its institutional journey. Today, the **IBSUniversity Bill was formally presented in the National Parliament**, and following the deliberations, it has been **successfully enacted as an Act of Parliament with unanimous approval from all Members present during the Parliamentary session**. This landmark development represents the culmination of many years of dedication, perseverance, commitment with values and ethics towards strengthening higher education in Papua New Guinea.

During the parliamentary proceedings, **Hon. Kinoka Hotune Feo, Minister for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology and Sports, delivered a remarkable speech**, highlighting the vision, contributions and transformative impact of IBSUniversity in developing Papua New Guinea's human capital. The Minister acknowledged the institution's role in providing quality education, training, and research opportunities for Papua New Guineans.

The occasion was further honored by remarks from **Hon. James Marape**, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, who expressed deep appreciation for the extraordinary contributions of **Sir Mick Nades**, Founder of IBS.

Additional commendations were expressed by **Hon. Sasindhara Muthuvel**, Governor for West New Britain Province, and former Prime Minister **Hon. Peter O'Neill**, member for Ialibu-Pangia both recognizing the impactful contributions of Sir Mick Nades and IBSUniversity toward advancing education and developing a skilled workforce for the nation.

Debates and support were also expressed by **Hon. Puka Temu**, Member for Abau and North Fly member, **Hon. James Donald**.

### IBSUNIVERSITY CAMPUS

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The Governor of the National Capital District **Hon. Powes Parkop** and the **Honourable Member for North Waghi Benjamin Mul** also conveyed strong appreciation for the university's remarkable role in supporting education, skills development, and nation-building.

IBSUniversity extend its heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to **the Founder Sir Mick Nades**, whose vision and perseverance made this achievement possible. Through his dedication and commitment to uplift and educate young Papua New Guineans and his lifetime of service to education in Papua New Guinea.

The University would also like to appreciate and sincerely acknowledge **Prof. Ramachandran Arunachalam the Vice Chancellor of IBSUniversity** for his constant support and leadership towards the IBSUniversity Bill.

IBSUniversity also extends its appreciation and gratitude to **Chancellor Mrs Auvita Rapilla, Council Members, Trustees, management, staff, students, alumni, and all partners** who have supported and contributed to this remarkable journey.

The enactment of the **IBSUniversity Act** in Parliament is not only a legal milestone but also a powerful affirmation of the credibility, integrity, and contribution of our institution to Papua New Guinea's higher education sector. It further strengthens the foundation upon which IBSUniversity will continue to grow and serve future generations with its vision of enriching lives through world -class education, training, and research.

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## About IBSUniversity

Founded in 1987 as the Institute of Business Studies (IBS), the institution began by offering revision classes for the Papua New Guinea Institute of Accountants - now CPA PNG. Over the years, IBS expanded its academic offerings, introducing certificate courses in Accounting and Business in 1994 and later forming a pioneering partnership with Southern Cross University, Australia, in 1999. This collaboration enabled IBS to deliver internationally recognised bachelor's degree programmes in Accounting, Business and IT.

Continuing its legacy of leadership, IBS introduced Papua New Guinea's first MBA program in 2003 through a partnership with Deakin University, Australia. IBS was elevated to **IBSUniversity** under **NEC Decision No. 314 of 2016** and formally gazetted in January 2017, paving the way for the launch of its own degree programmes since 2017. Today, IBSUniversity offers Bachelor Degree Programmes in Accounting and Finance, Economics and Development Studies, Business and Management, Information Technology and Bachelor of Education (Major in Digital and Blended Learning) and a Master of Leadership and Strategic Management at Mt. Eriama campus.

**Prepared by: IBSU Media Unit**

**Approved for Release By:**

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**Prof. Ramachandran Arunachalam**  
**Vice Chancellor**

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