The Papua New Guinea University of Technology was established on 26th May 1965 by an Act of the House of Assembly, originally under the name of the Papua New Guinea Institute of Higher Technical Education. The title was changed to the Papua New Guinea Institute of Technology in March 1970 and the Papua New Guinea University of Technology (Unitech) in August 1973. The original University Act was revised with the 1986 Revised Act by the National Parliament. It is the only technologically based university in the South Pacific outside Australia and New Zealand.

Our Vision: The leading technological university in Papua New Guinea and the region.

Our Mission Statement: The mission of the Papua New Guinea University of Technology is develop and offer teaching, research and community service of high standard; engendering critical evaluation and application of science and technology for Papua New Guinea and South Pacific.

The main Unitech campus is located on a 223-hectare site about 10 km out of the city of Lae, Morobe Province. Lae is the Country’s industrial hub and is the gateway to the Highlands and the Maritime provinces of Papua New Guinea. The National Government’s directive to reform and streamline the forestry sector resulted in the amalgamation of the Bulolo Forestry College and Timber & Forestry Training College (TFTC) with the University’s Department of Forestry in October 1995. TFTC has developed into a center for excellence in tropical sawmilling and saw doctoring, offering training for other Pacific island nations.

The University offers undergraduate and post-graduate degree programs in the following fields of study:
- Agriculture
- Applied sciences (Applied Chemistry & Food Technology)
- Applied Physics with Electronics and Instrumentation
- Architecture & Building
- Business Studies
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science
- Communication for Development
- Electrical and Communication Engineering
- Forestry
- Mechanical Engineering
- Mining Engineering
- Surveying and Land Studies

Unitech is also a leading provider of tertiary level open and distance education through the Department of Open and Distance Learning (DODL). With increasing demands for continuing education, DODL is well placed with the support from the Departments to meet the challenges ahead. Forming strategic alliances and academic linkages with overseas universities and institutions has enabled the university to conduct collaborative research of international status and staff development program.

The University’s commercial arms, Unitech Consultancy & Development Ltd (UDC) and Unitech Architects Limited (UAL) provide a wide range of consultancy and technical services. By entering into partnership with donor agencies such as AusAID, JICA, ACIAR, the UDC and UAL provide expert consultancies to corporate partners, government departments and statutory bodies, and provincial and local-level government councils. The Management Development Centre (MDC) provides short skill courses on a regular basis targeting the workforce in both the public and private sectors.

Ongoing development in the resources sector in the country and changing environment in the national and international levels have fuelled the establishment of a number of centres of excellence including:
- Unitech Biotechnology Centre
- Environmental Research Management Centre
- Melanesian Land Studies Centre

The only Rainforest Habitat in the Country is located on campus and is home to an exotic collection of indigenous species of birds and animals from various parts of Papua New Guinea. By gaining international exposure, the Rainforest Habitat stamped itself as a popular tourist destination for world travellers who stop over in Lae.