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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FNU partners with WAF**

**Suva, Fiji Islands.** A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Fiji National University (FNU) and the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) to establish a long term academic and technical partnership.

The scope of this five year partnership is to provide the opportunity and encourage FNU students to take up industrial attachment in the areas of Civil Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.

While signing the partnership at Novotel Suva, Lami Bay today, FNU Vice Chancellor Professor Nigel Healey said the vocational nature of FNU's five colleges leads directly to careers.

"What makes FNU special is our focus on degrees and diplomas that leads to jobs. The focus on providing programmes that ensures employers' needs are met and that our students have appropriate work experience is what sets FNU apart from other Universities.

"I would like to commend WAF on this important step in strengthening our curriculum and improving the education experience for our students," said Professor Healey.

The Chief Executive Officer of WAF, Mr Opetaiia Ravai commended FNU's commitment to providing programmes suitable to the needs of the different industries of the country.

"It is part of our social responsibility to help the communities and the nation to develop the workforce. I would like to encourage other stakeholders to support the development of Fiji's future workforce through such initiatives," he said.

Mr Ravai also encouraged females to take up careers in the field of engineering.

"The engineering field is dominated by males and this partnership with FNU will pave way for young female professionals taking up careers at WAF," he said.

WAF will issue a Certificate of IA completion to all students who successfully complete the duration of industrial attachment.

**For further information, please contact the Communications Office on 339 4000 extension 2890/2886 or Senior Public Relations Officer, Ranbeer Singh on Email: [SPRO@fnu.ac.fj](mailto:SPRO@fnu.ac.fj) or Phone: 9895267**

**About the Fiji National University:** The Fiji National University (FNU) was established through the merger of 7 government-owned tertiary institutions in Fiji, and commenced operations from 1 January 2010. The constituent institutions are found at over 40 different locations across Fiji, and collectively offer Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate qualifications and Skills Upgrading for those who are already in employment. Approximately 30,000 students pass through the University each year. Over the last six years of its operations, the University has registered major achievements with regard to new programme delivery, quality improvements and contribution to research and publications via its 5 Colleges: The College of Humanities & Education (CHE), the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS), the College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), the College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (CAFF), the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC).