

Volume 9 No. 02
12 January, 2017

Upcoming Events & Notices

Staff Welcome Function

Date: Saturday 28 January 2017

Day Function

8am – 2.30pm | My Suva Park

Evening Function

6pm – 11pm | Vodafone Arena

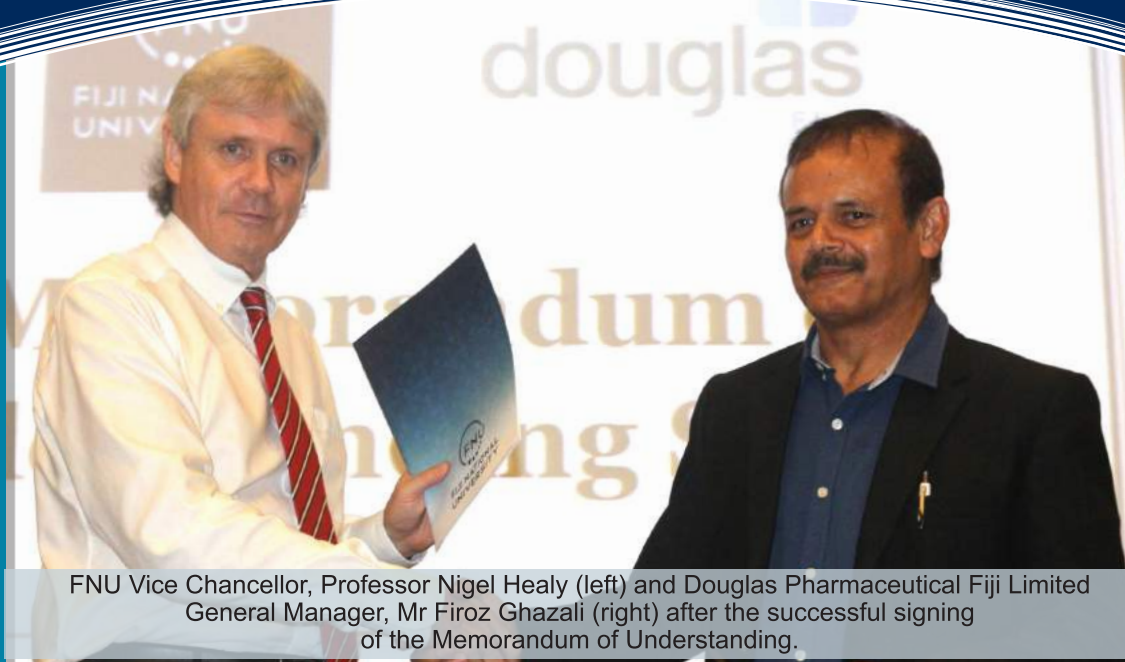
FNU Alumni Association Logo Competition

Closing Date: 15 February 2017

Designs to be submitted to

Alumni Office, Nasinu Campus or

Email: AO-DPD@fnu.ac.fj



FNU Vice Chancellor, Professor Nigel Healy (left) and Douglas Pharmaceutical Fiji Limited General Manager, Mr Firoz Ghazali (right) after the successful signing of the Memorandum of Understanding.

FNU offers manufacturing engineering

Fiji National University will offer world class training in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Engineering after the successful signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Douglas Pharmaceutical Fiji Limited (DPL).

The MOU was signed on Friday 13 January by FNU Vice Chancellor, Professor Nigel Healy and DPL General Manager, Mr Firoz Ghazali in the presence of Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, Honourable Faiyaz Koya (*pictured below*) who congratulated both parties saying the new partnership is 'unique.'



Honourable Koya said the MOU will offer opportunity for both parties to collaborate for the purpose of teaching and learning.

"This MOU will pave the way for a unique partnership between the industry and academia. Through this MOU, Douglas Pharmaceutical and FNU will work together to develop training programmes in pharmaceutical manufacturing engineering and other related programmes. Today's signing is a step in the right direction and a show of confidence and support of the private sector in the overall vision of the Fijian Government to have a knowledge-based society," said the Minister.

Hon. Koya said as a nation, we should anticipate future graduates from the state's university to be better qualified to work in pharmaceutical manufacturing facility and to join Fiji's growing manufacturing sectors.

FNU Vice Chancellor, Professor Nigel Healy said the MOU signifies how committed FNU is in developing new programmes to suit the growing employment market.

"The new Certificate IV in Manufacturing Engineering has been co-designed with DPL to ensure that FNU can support the growing pharmaceutical sector here in Fiji, by providing world class training. As Fiji's national University, we are very grateful for the support we receive from the Fiji government and ministers have been instrumental in creating this new partnership," said Professor Healey.

DPL Chief Operating Officer, Mr Rod De Spong (*pictured*) is ecstatic the partnership will encourage increase in high quality pharmaceutical manufacturer's operators.

"This formal qualification will pave way to increasing both the number and level of highly trained manufacturing operator. This is first for a country like Fiji to have quality access to pharmaceutical manufacturing personnel once they graduate," Mr Spong said.



 **Join us on facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/fnuofficial>

In this issue

FNU offers manufacturing engineering - Pg 1

CEST to offer Cert IV in Manufacturing Engineering - Pg 2

Enrolment Extended - Pg 3

International medical research for FNU - Pg 4

Alumni Association logo soon - Pg 4

CURRENT VACANCIES

FOR CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE VISIT PAGE 4

FNU in the MEDIA this Week

The Fiji National University Newsletter tracks media coverage of FNU events on a weekly basis. The following news can be found on the website which shows how FNU was featured in the media in the past week.

- Drug Firm, FNU Sign Off On Deal
- New pilot training school soon for Fiji
- Partnership forged
- Raj Looks Forward to FNU Life
- Early Trip To Suva for Mani
- Library of opportunities



CEST to offer Cert IV in Manufacturing Engineering

Question and Answers with College of Engineering, Science & Technology, Head of Department Plant Maintenance, Mr Kitione Fesaitu in Derrick Campus, Samabula.

College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST) continues to introduce new programmes to suit the ever evolving and growing employment market.

This is evident in the newly developed Certificate IV in Manufacturing Engineering for the Department of Plant Maintenance with the School of Mechanical Engineering (TVET).

As a result of the newly signed Memorandum of Understanding between the University and Douglas Pharmaceutical Fiji Limited, students will soon have the opportunity to enrol and study manufacturing engineering with the College.

This week, we bring to you our interview with the Head of Department Plant Maintenance, Mr Kitione Fesaitu who spearheaded the development of the programme with his team; Mr Atunaisa Lewenilovo, Mr Jeffery Matthias and Mr Danial Maharaj.

We understand you co-designed the programme with your team that will soon be offered as the result of the MOU, tell us more about it.

The idea was instigated by Douglas Pharmaceutical and the Dean CEST, Mr Salabogi Mavoava. They had a meeting and wanted some sort of training for the company similar to New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) courses, but to run in Fiji. The only difference is NZQA training is for operators only, but Douglas Company wanted the workers to be trained as operators and to attend to machine break-down immediately should any fault arise with these manufacturing machines. This term is used for skilled trades men today as Hybrid trades men, meaning the trainee is trained in such a way that he/she is able to perform the work of 3 - 4 men, example, the person is a driver or welder; electrical knowledge, mechanical knowledge, hydraulics and pneumatics and many more skills will be included in the programme. This creates more opportunities for the students to find jobs, in Fiji and Internationally.

How was the programme structure determined?

At first we must understand the comparison of a plant machine to a manufacturing machine. Plant is usually heavy machines installed in the foundations to produce products like electricity in Power stations, Steam boilers in sugar Industries, Hospitals, Hotels, Milling plants to produce cement powder etc. And Manufacturing machines are for food processing, soft drinks, pharmaceutical needs, plastic and bottle process, small bio medical machines, paper printing machines.

Upon discussion with the team, the closest programme to match manufacturing engineering was Plant Maintenance Eng. Certificate IV. We compared the need for which units best apply to these machines, taking into account the core units and compulsory servicing units like OHS and Ethics and Com. So Cert IV manufacture and Cert IV Plant Maintenance is the same for stages 1,2,3. They separate in stages 4 and 5 but manufacture has one extra unit in stage 3 compared to plant.

Who/which companies did you consult with in the designing of the programme.

We had an Industrial Advisory Committee Meeting attended



(L-R) Mr Atunaisa Lewenilovo, Mr Jeffery Matthias, Mr Danial Maharaj and HOD Plant Maintenance, Mr Kitione Fesaitu.

by many companies. The following companies attended the Industrial advisory committee meeting: Standard Concrete, Pernix Fiji Limited, Pacific Cement, Douglas Pharmaceutical, Pacific Manufacturers, Coca-Cola Amatil Fiji Limited, Pleass Global and lecturers from our college with our Dean.

What is unique about this programme?

The uniqueness about the programme is that it also runs in NZ and Australia as Cert IV in Manufacturing Technology, but in Fiji we had to name it Cert IV in Manufacturing Engineering because we focused more on the Engineering Maintenance side of the machines, for trainees' future innovations and not inventions of new machines, as long as the student trainee can operate and maintain that was the objective, the Technology side was more in to design and inventions which we don't do in Fiji.

What should students interested in undertaking the programme look forward to?

Apprentice programmes are available, varieties of job and career opportunities. Employment locally and overseas. Fix machines at home anywhere anytime. Passion to make things work, improve, innovate, and create.

Tell us about accreditation of the programme.

We already have full support from the industries by the reflection in the IAC meetings and attendance. The recognition of NTPC approval for apprentice programs. The programme first went through our SAB-school academic Board, and then CAB-College academic Board and now Senate. After that we will get FHEC on Board to register programme.

With the programme, how will it benefit the nation at large?

There will be more employment opportunities, no need to send students to New Zealand or Australia, we will have more students graduating in manufacture locally, better supply of skilled people to our industries and Manufacturing companies and of course the country grows with knowledge and confidence with its people when we invest in our own work force.



Enrolment Extended

The Fiji National University has provided a golden opportunity to the students to still enrol without any penalty till Friday 27 January after which no further applications will be accepted.

Dean of College of Humanities & Education, Dr Eci Nabalarua says this is an excellent opportunity for the students who were still deciding on the programmes they want to enrol in.

“As the national University, we want to provide every opportunity possible to our students to get a skill which would enable them to have successful careers.”

Students can submit applications at any of the major campuses around the country in Koronivia, Nasinu, Samabula, Lautoka, Nadi, Ba, Sigatoka and Labasa. Academics are present at all campuses to guide the students with the programme choice and enrolment process.

Out & About at *Enrolment Centres*



International medical research for FNU

The Medical Research Laboratory of the Fiji National University has achieved yet another milestone by collaborating with the Ryukyus University, Okinawa, Japan.

Dr Santha Muller, Director, Medical Research Laboratory had an opportunity to visit the Graduate School of Health Sciences to deliver lectures on Immuno-pathology of viral diseases such as HIV and Dengue fever in Fiji and carried out a meeting with the President and Vice-president of the University of Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan regarding the collaboration.

This cooperation endorses international collaboration and external funding to the Fiji National University, that will provide new medical testing and technology to Fiji, exchange of research staff and students opportunities for the two organisations.

Dr Muller said the collaboration between Fiji National University and Ryukyus for the next three years with financial support assured for conducting research on: Molecular epidemiology study of HTLV-1 in ATL-Adult T lymphocyte Lymphoma patients among Melanesian group in Fiji.

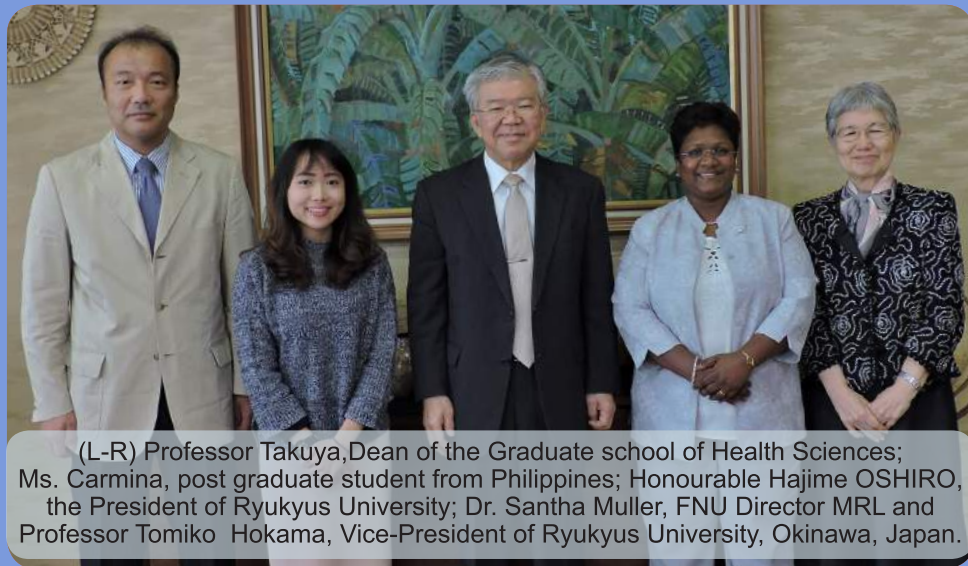
“Ryukyus University will provide full funding for carrying out this project, research fellowships and also engage postgraduate students for research and training.

“This project will focus on a scientific study in Fiji to screen for a virus HTLV-1, Human T- Lymphotropic Virus Type 1 which causes Adult T – cell Leukemia-lymphoma (ATL) that is a peripheral T cell malignancy (Cancer),” she said.

This project will start once the FNU and RU signs the MOU and also acquiring ethical clearance from the

MoH, Research and Ethics committee.

This initiative taken by the Medical Research Laboratory research team will certainly benefit the people of Fiji when screening of this virus among the Melanesians or the general population regarding seroprevalence of the virus by antibody testing. This study will focus on the molecular point of view as this particular virus possesses a remarkable genetic susceptibility, an unusual feature of this retrovirus which can be ethnically determined.



(L-R) Professor Takuya, Dean of the Graduate school of Health Sciences; Ms. Carmina, post graduate student from Philippines; Honourable Hajime OSHIRO, the President of Ryukyus University; Dr. Santha Muller, FNU Director MRL and Professor Tomiko Hokama, Vice-President of Ryukyus University, Okinawa, Japan.



Alumni Association logo soon

The Fiji National University Alumni Association is embarking on creating its own identity by having its logo.

President of FNUAA, Mr Netani Sukanaivalu (pictured) said it is important for the association to have a logo as it is an independent body under the office of the Division of Planning and Development (DPD).

“Since we are communicating directly



with other organisations and institutions outside the University, it is only appropriate that we have our own logo. The logo should reflect the diversity of the alumni of FNU, the diverse cultures and fields of study as well as the FNU Objectives,

Vision and Mission. The logo must be an original design with a tagline and a brief description of what it signifies,” said Mr Sukanaivalu.

FNU students and alumni members are encouraged to participate in the logo design competition launched by the FNU Alumni Association (FNUAA).

Closing date for the competition is Wednesday 15 February, 2017.

The winner will be awarded \$100 cash.

Vacancies

For job vacancies and career opportunities at Fiji National University, go to <http://waf.fnu.ac.fj/eoi/> New posts are logged each week for academic and non-academic vacancies, so check regularly for the opportunity that could lead you to a new life.

Some of the positions currently available online:

- Driver – HR
- Accommodation Officer
- Assistant Webmaster
- Development Assistant
- Warden
- Manager Information Management System
- Manager ICT Infrastructure
- Tutors in Environmental Health
- Assistant Lecturer in Accounting
- Associate Professor in Fisheries
- Lecturer II in I-Taukei Language