



# COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY NEWS LETTER

**Bi-monthly newsletter on research, projects, workshops, conferences, publications and consultancies**

**VOLUME 03/2017**



**LAUNCH OF THE UNDP FUNDED CERTIFICATE IV PROGRAM ON MINING, GEOLOGY AND QUARRYING**

## PAPERS

### ARTICLE 1



Professor Rajendra Prasad presented a paper titled "Sodium, Potassium Intake through Juices and Low Alcohol beverages in Lautoka" in CEST on 30th Oct 17. The paper has been accepted for oral presentation at the 105th Session of Indian Science Congress Asso-

ciation to be held at Osmania University Hyderabad, India between 3 – 8 January, 2018. Professor Rajendra Prasad is a senior Professor and HoD of Chemistry in School of Pure Science at Lautoka. His research interests include: Chemical analysis of ions and molecules, Catalytic conversions of chemicals and pollutants, heavy metal removal studies, coordination chemistry, analytical method for development of ions, pesticides, pollutants etc.

### ARTICLE 2



Mr Sailesh Chand presented a paper titled "Context Aware Collaborative Filtering Algorithm for Online Stores" in CEST on 30 Oct 2017. The paper was accepted for presentation at the 4th Asia-Pacific World Congress on Computer Science and Engineering (APWC on CSE 2017) scheduled between 11 – 13 December at Mana Island Resort & Spa, Fiji but could not be presented for short-

age of funds. Mr Chand is a Lecturer in the School of Mathematics and Computing Science with research interests in E-commerce adoption, Responsive web design, mobile learning, usability evaluation of RWD (responsive web design).

## ARTICLE 3



Mr Rajnesh Krishnan Mudaliar presented a paper titled "Mathematical Modeling of Dried Mango Khatais" in CEST on 30 Oct 2017. The paper was accepted for presentation at the 4th Asia-Pacific World Congress on Computer Science and Engineering (APWC on CSE 2017) held between 11 – 13 December at Mana Island Resort & Spa, Fiji. Mr Mudaliar is a lecturer in School of Mathematics and Computing Science with research interests in numerical analysis and data modeling.

## ARTICLE 4



Professor Anand Tyagi presented a paper titled "Sugarcane Variety Evaluation for Qualitative Characters in Fiji's Sugarcane Cultivation Zones" in CEST on 01st Nov 17. The paper has been accepted for presentation at the 105th Session of Indian Science Congress Association to be held in Osmania Univer-

sity Hyderabad, India from 3rd January to 8th January 2018. Professor Anand Tyagi is a very senior member of FNU and presently the Head of School for pure sciences. He has many publications on his name with more than 2000 citations. His research interests are : Reproductive biology of plants, Genetics and evolution, molecular biology and bio-technology, Cytology and cytogenetics, plant breeding and genetics including conventional and Biotechnological methods (eg tissue culture, gene transfer etc.)

## ARTICLE 5



Professor Chun Qing Li from RMIT Australia conducted two separate lectures on topics of interests to Civil engineers. The visit of the Professor was jointly organised by Fiji Institute of Engineers (FIE) and CEST/FNU. Professor Li is a professor of civil engineering with special expertise in time dependent reliability methods and their applications to risk assessment and service life

prediction for civil infrastructure. The Professor delivered a talk on 31st Oct at Derrick Campus, Samabula titled "Future Research and Development on Civil and Structural Engineering". The talk was mainly attended by SBCE staff and students and was well received by one and all. The Professor delivered a second lecture on 01 Nov at Hotel Talanoa for the benefit of FIE members and industry representatives. The talk titled "Principles and analysis requirements on wind loads to buildings in meeting the compliance standards of AS1170.2 wind coding" evinced keen interest in the audience.

## ARTICLE 6



An "Information literacy session" was organised in CEST on 03 Nov at Samabula. The session was focussed towards building up the research capacity of staff members by educating them on information services provided by Derrick campus library. Chief Librarian MM Rifaudeen delivered a 3 hour interactive tutorial session for the members informing them about various databases available with the library and its accessibility. He also presented a step by step approach towards searching, downloading and creating Bibliography automatically on reference materials available through library.

## ARTICLE 7



Dr Dellena G Alagcan from the School of Mechanical Engineering represented FNU/CEST during the National Bio-fuel policy stakeholder consultation workshop conducted at Holiday Inn in Suva on 01 Dec 17. The workshop aimed at receiving important feedback from the stakeholders who would be engaged in this human resource intensive industry of bio-fuel. The workshop also discussed in detail the initiatives put in to improve bio fuel investment and program implementation in the country.

## ARTICLE 8



Fiji government has accorded high priority for development of a mining program to boost economic growth in this sector. In pursuit of this government objective, a UNDP funded consultant along with Mrs Vane Seruvakula from the School of Building and Civil Engineering, prepared a detailed inception report on the program. The report was then followed up by Mrs Vane who raced against time and other systemic hurdles to develop a Certificate IV program in mining, geology and quarrying in record time. The program has now been approved by Senate and submitted for FHEC for final approval. To ensure that the program meets the highest quality standards, Mrs Vane visited leading institutions in Australia, collected rock and mineral samples, mining equipment and even got a MoU with ANU for visits of lecturers to FNU for lecture delivery. The program has also attracted a UNDP fund of approx. \$160,000/- for equipment and facility development. In developing this program to be run on time in Jan 2018, despite the lengthy qualitative FNU requirements, Mrs Vane has displayed the highest degree of dedication, perseverance and hard work. Her efforts will remain a shining example for all in the college to follow.

