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Division of Marketing
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Dear Readers,

A warm greeting to you all! Welcome to our latest newsletter, the first for the year 2021. Thinking back to 2020 most of us entered the world of lockdown and were forced into psychological and social situations. Thus, learning the lessons and overcoming the past, we move forward to particularly focus and buckle up for the years ahead of us for the achievement of goals and for the University's prosperity.

Despite Fiji moving quickly from restricted movement across its Town & Cities to the New Normal, there have been ongoing effects of the Global Pandemic on the various environment of the Country. The Tertiary Institutions had to adopt to the changing demographic, financial, technological, and political trends.

In consideration of the change in trends, the new developments must have appropriate balance between physical and digital infrastructure. Thus, maximizing the University's ability to enhance flexible learning, and emphasis on student experience. Therefore, in the long-term strategy right-sizing of the physical infrastructure would be required.

This newsletter will cover the updates of the projects which the Division has undertaken.

Project Highlights

CBHTS Complex

The contractor for the CBHTS complex construction works, Cope Constructions Ltd has attained overall progress of 80%. The four-story building provides flexibility that the 'New Normal' requires with the blending of physical and technological advancement. The Project Team had successfully handled majority of the issues that had been directly or indirectly affected by the pandemic such as movement restrictions and material logistics. Apart from the pandemic, the ongoing impact of the adverse weather patterns had also impacted the progress. Despite the challenges, the project is expected to be completed for Semester 2, 2021.



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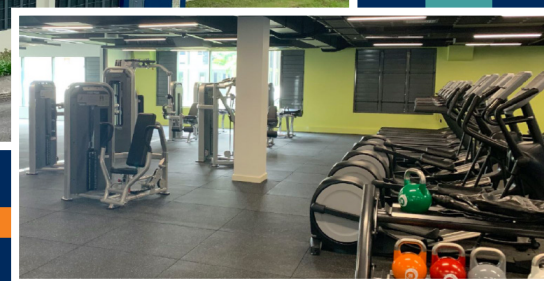
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Signage Manual – Way Finding for FNU Stakeholders

Diadem Design & Consultancy NZ Pty Ltd was engaged as a wayfinding and signage consultant for the University whereby the Signage Manual was finally completed in quarter three of 2020 which was also presented during a Senior Management Group Meeting in October 2020. The key factors considered while designing the Signage for FNU was functional, durable, fun, culture, sustainable, brand and affordable. The Signage Manual will ensure that FNU building and wayfinding signs are standardized across all campuses while creating a unique system specific to the FNU brand for all campus users. A pilot project was planned to be undertaken after completion of the Manual with the consultants, however works have been deferred due to travel restrictions.

Sports Complex

The Sports complex consists of a sports court, gym, and multipurpose room whereby construction works are completed with gym equipment installed except pending installation of court flooring which is on hold due to travel restrictions as it required installers from abroad. Sustainable water management practice has also been incorporated in the building which is the rainwater harvesting system providing environmental and social benefits. FNU has opened doors of this state-of-the-art facility to its staff and students.



Generator Installation School of Nursing



The Division in its efforts to upgrade the campus infrastructure has completed electrical infrastructure upgrade works at the School of Nursing in 2020. The project included replacing the main electrical switchboards with new ones to comply with current standards, and as well as make provision for future expansions. A generator was installed to provide back-up to the whole of campus. This project will ensure that there will be minimal disruptions to learning & teaching activities during EFL power outages.

Sewer Reticulation Project for Nasinu campus

The Division had undertaken to improve wastewater infrastructure for the Nasinu Campus. With the increasing demands of the growing campus and the ongoing development of the two new major buildings, the need for a centralized wastewater reticulation system and connection to the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) sewer infrastructure became highly significant.

Irwin Alsop Pacific (IAP) was engaged as a consultant on the project. Major setbacks and challenges were faced during the design phase for routing and WAF connection point location. The contractor, Fortech Constructions Ltd commenced works in March 2020, however, was immediately set back due to restrictions and unavailability of materials because of COVID-19. The project was completed in October 2020.

Works planned for 2021

The Division had started the year with Seating Bure and Feeder Shed project at the College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and in consideration of the discontinuation of Capital Grant from the Government in the 2020-2021 National Budget and based on the budget allocations for the year, the Division has planned to commit its efforts to complete projects which are ongoing such as FMA Three-story and CBHTS complex. The Division will commence Electrical Infrastructure upgrade works for Derrick Campus and Pasifika Campus in 2021. In addition, the Division will also undertake feasibility study for 2 renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

The Division enthusiastically endeavors to work collaboratively with all stakeholders and partners to deliver the best services and sustainable infrastructure despite the various challenges encountered during the economic downturn. The Division wishes everyone a prosperous 2021.