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Dear Readers,

A heartfelt greeting to our University Community! Welcome to the 2nd edition of our 2021 newsletter. The second wave of the pandemic arrived just as all of us were recovering and adjusting to the new normal; putting our abilities to the test once more. There is no doubt that this pandemic will leave a lasting impact not just on FNU but also on the nation. However, whatever show has been planned, still must be staged for the waiting patrons but gradually as time and situation permits. Reviving the business amid the pandemic is indeed a challenge considering the strict health measures and protocols that must be adhered.

The pandemic has created significant challenges within the construction industry. It requires skilled and unskilled labour, site inspections for quality

assurance, working in close proximities, and the supply chain across Fiji and abroad.

The University has prioritised student and staff safety while considering the operational requirements within various services of the University. Similarly, the Division of Capital Projects and Infrastructure has embraced the challenges and explored opportunities to mitigate the delays to protect the commercial interest and achieve completion on the projects to allow the University community to benefit from new facilities when restrictions recede. The Division has been working with its Contractors, Consultants, and FNU OHS to establish safe work methodologies before resuming any construction works on campus.

Below are the updates on the projects.

Project Highlights

Master Plan 2021-2026

With the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a global shift in economic priorities and funding. FNU Strategic Plan 2021-2026 directs for the revision of the Master Plan, and the Division embarked on this journey in March 2021.

The master planning process involved series of consultations with Deans, Directors and the PVCs to understand the perspectives and growth expectations of each entity of the University. Where required, the Division carried out site assessments.

The Master Plan 2021-2026 considers the changing trends to ensure the developments have

the appropriate physical and digital infrastructure balance. The Master Plan 2021-2026 also takes into consideration of the limited funding and financial sustainability of the University in the long term while still trying to meet the demands of the students and the staff and creating an environment conducive to learning & teaching, recreation and providing safe space for occupants. The Master Plan indicates opportunities for secondary sources of income to sustain itself while not compromising its core function.

The Draft Master Plan 2021-2026 has been completed and will progress through a series of consultations with the SLT, Council sub-committees and finally, the University Council for approval.

Seating Bure & Feeder Shed



The Division had commenced work on the Seating Bure and Feeder Shed Project at the College of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry

at the beginning of 2021. The seating bure will accommodate students on the premises in terms of outdoor learning and collaboration while the feeder shed will assist in manufacturing raw feeding ingredients into finished products for the animals on the farm. This will assist in better preparing the students for the industry. The Division of Capital Projects and Infrastructure is also working on the sustainability criteria “water harvesting system” which will be implemented in this project. The project was anticipated to be completed in Semester 2 however, further delays are expected based on the current covid situation.

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Design & Layout

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Sports Complex

After successful virtual training of our local project team including consultants, contractors, project management team and FNU maintenance team, the flooring works on the sports court section of the building has resumed. The University had taken a bold move after several considerations of the current pandemic environment of not able to get international installers to travel to Fiji. This action not only allows the University to fully utilise its facilities but also provide a good opportunity to the local labour to enhance their skills on working on international standards, such as the current specified Olympic standard flooring system.



CBHTS Complex

Should works would have proceeded according to plan, the facility would have opened its doors to the University Community in Semester 2. With the current delays, the project team will target to complete the remaining works by the end of the year to allow the usage of the facility in 2022.

Similar to the Sports Complex, there are some specialist scopes within this project. Virtual training plans and collaborative efforts are explored with local firms to achieve the intended outcomes.



The COVID-19 pandemic has prompted national guidelines encouraging people to work from home, but this has brought with it several obstacles. Working from home has brought about an overwhelming experience that has taught how technology influences business in this day and age. While the Division had been significantly impacted due to limitations of site works, however, the Division made substantial progress on design documentation works and contractual matters. The Division had maintained effective communication amongst staff and stakeholders, and has adjusted to the new normal flawlessly.

The Division maintains its focus on the new Strategic Plan and continues to work closely with all Colleges and Divisions to accomplish common goals.

In these difficult times, encouragement and support to each of our colleagues are essential. The Division would like to wish everyone a safe and prosperous year ahead. At the same time, the Division wishes to announce that 100% of its staff has obtained their First Jab and by September will have complete vaccination to create a safe work environment for its colleagues and stakeholders.