



FIJI NATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY

# NEWSLETTER

Division of Capital Projects & Infrastructure



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### Division of Capital Projects & Infrastructure

Nasinu Campus  
P.O. Box 7222,  
Nasinu, Fiji Islands  
Phone: 339400  
Ext: 2758  
[www.fnu.ac.fj](http://www.fnu.ac.fj)

Email your suggestion or comments:  
[dcpi@fnu.ac.fj](mailto:dcpi@fnu.ac.fj)

Design & Layout  
Division of Marketing & Communications

### Dear Readers,

Welcome to the half-yearly update for 2022, greetings to the university community. The Division is very delighted to share with you all the highlights of the past few months of 2022. After ten months of closure and activating 'work from home' as a precautionary measure due to COVID-19 restrictions since May 2021, the university reopened its campuses on the 14th of February, 2022

Over the last two years, the Pandemic has taught us a lot concerning business continuity and the different approaches to achieving the goals and mitigating potential risks to remain productive. The first quarter of the year was proven to be very challenging with staff and students getting back on campus and readjusting to the new routine. The construction industry was faced with difficulties such as labour shortages and supply chain interruptions which left most contractors struggling to keep up with the timeline and complete the existing projects.

With the academic year commencing in 2022,

the opening event of the FNU Sports & Wellness Centre created a buzz and opened an opportunity for the staff, students, and the wider community to make use of the facility whilst also generating income for the university.

Although the impact of COVID-19 is minimal at this stage, we all must be cautious and ensure risk mitigation strategies are enforced across the University. If we all embrace the current challenges, we will emerge stronger and learn more opportunities to meet our goals while being resilient.

Towards the end of the 2nd Quarter, the Division successfully hosted the soft launch of the Labasa Campus in Naduna. Through such projects, the Division enhances the quality education with the provision of better facilities. The Division has been constantly working with all Colleges and Divisions to ensure the strategic objectives of the University are met.

The Division is glad to enlighten you all on the projects that are being undertaken and its progress below.

## Project Highlights

### Refurbishment of Naduna Campus, Labasa.

The development of the Naduna Campus in Labasa, which was previously a Technical College Campus, began on December 2021. The goal of this project was to improve learning and teaching facilities for Northern Division staff and students. This facility provides better TVET amenities as well as a more holistic learning environment for the students. The facility provides a balance of academic and extra-curricular activities. The staff and students have now settled on the new campus. While the project was nearing completion the Senior Leadership Team along with the FNU

Council members took this as an opportunity to do a soft launch of the Naduna Campus and celebrate the project's success on the 10th of June 2022.



### Seating Bure & Feeder Shed

The Seating Bure and Feeder Shed projects are located at the Livestock Farm, Koronivia Campus. The Seating Bure consists of study space, washroom, and changing areas, while the Feeder Shed will provide access to feed

preparation and experimentation. The Seating Bure project recommenced in July 2021 and was completed in quarter one of 2022. On the other hand, the feeder shed superstructure is completed as well and the expected completion in July.



## CBHTS Complex

The construction work at the 4-story \$27M complex located on Nasinu Campus is in progress. Once completed, the facility will provide the university with state-of-the-art learning and teaching spaces, including a lecture theatre with 450 sitting capacity, tutorial rooms, a computer lab, and student services hub. The Contractor for the CBHTS complex construction works, Cope Constructions Ltd, has attained overall progress of 94%. The facility is expected to be ready in Semester 2, 2022



## FMA 3 Storey Project

The construction works on the Three-Storey Fiji Maritime Academy project at Nasese have recommenced in mid-March this year. The \$15M building provides the academy with the space to introduce new courses and higher-level training and certification of seafarers.

The project also constitutes a 120kW solar PV system that will commence installation upon completing the general building works.

The overall project progress is 86% project and is expected to be completed by September 2022.



## FNU Sports and Wellness Centre

The state-of-the-art, FNU Sports and Wellness Centre was officially opened by the Attorney-General and Minister of Economy Honourable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum on the 31st of March 2022. The facility features an indoor sport and fitness gymnasium that serves students undertaking studies in Sports Science at FNU, the multipurpose rooms can be accommodated for events as well. The COVID-19 pandemic had initially affected the project's progress which delayed works on the sports court area. The Division took the challenges as opportunities, to train local contractors to install international standard specialised flooring. The Olympic-standard sports court can be hired by teams for sports such as Basketball, Badminton, Futsal, Netball, and Volleyball. The \$9M project also features a rainwater harvesting system for non-potable use which is in line with the university's sustainability initiative.





## Sustainability Highlights: Green and Sustainable FNU

With the university's focus on achieving environmental sustainability and demonstrating support for environmental protection, the Division organized a tree planting exercise to expand the tree population and mark the 'Earth Day' as well. The Senior Leadership Team took part in the tree planting activity on the 2nd of May 2022 at the College of Agriculture, Fisheries, and

Forestry in Koronivia Campus. Trees play an important role in climate change, being able to pull carbon dioxide out of the air and sink it into the ground. The involvement of the Leaders in such sustainable activities reflects good leadership and serves as role models to the university stakeholders. The Division hopes to see more student and staff engagement to elevate sustainability at all levels.

