

FNU NIKUA

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FIJI NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



Life's a journey
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FNU



**SINGH'S UNWAVERING
DEDICATION TO MEDICINE
INSPIRES ALL**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
GAIN INSIGHT AT
FNU CONFERENCE**



A Rewarding Year of Learning

It has been a wonderful year for me as the Vice-Chancellor of the Fiji National University – your national tertiary institution.

FNU has been the University of choice for many local, regional, and international students who have great academic aspirations.

I took up the role as VC in September this year, and since then, I have met many wonderful students at FNU campuses around Fiji, who are studying in their various programmes and have unique student experiences.

It has been a very enriching experience for me to get to know the students, staff, and Fijian culture, as all of this contributes to great learning and teaching. As the national university, we continue to work towards enhancing the student experience, which is also one of the pillars of the FNU Strategic Plan 2021–2026.

Prospective Students

One of the major highlights of my year was meeting prospective students during the FNU Open Day, which was held in October. I met so many secondary school students and visitors who came to learn more about the programmes offered by FNU.

I had interesting conversations with many of them and took pictures with our future prospective students for memories. The most interesting part of the Open Day was when I was told that some of the schools travelled from as far as Rakiraki and Wainimala to visit us.

Some groups had to leave before sunrise and cross rivers to make their trip to the FNU's Nasinu Campus. This shows that they take their future seriously and want to pursue tertiary studies to become qualified and workforce ready.

We have had many opportunities throughout the year to engage with our prospective students through the face-to-face and virtual Open Day and school visits and share about the study pathways and career opportunities available for everyone at FNU.

If you need academic counselling and assistance with your applications, please feel free to visit an FNU campus near you to complete your admission into FNU.

Examinations

Students completing high school studies in Fiji have sat for their national examinations and are now awaiting their results. I have every hope that you will excel and prosper in life.

Exams are a significant part of the student journey around the world, as this allows you to evaluate the skills and knowledge you have gained during your studies.

Our own students at FNU also underwent final examinations in December and it was wonderful to see students engaged in final studies with their colleagues, friends, and academic staff around the campuses when I drove to and from the office.

I would like to remind everyone that you have given your best, and I urge everyone to enjoy the break with families and friends. Family is an important support system in your learning, as they have supported, encouraged, and motivated you throughout the year to do well.

Study at FNU

To our prospective students, let me assure you that your university, FNU, is here to help you succeed and turn your dreams into reality.

Our mission is to serve the people, the economy, and the society of Fiji and the region, by providing education and training for employability, an excellent student experience, and research with real-world impact aligned to national priorities and with global relevance.

FNU is also a comprehensive University, offering courses across a wide spectrum of subjects including agriculture and fisheries, business and law, humanities and education, medicine and nursing, engineering and science.

Looking to the future, FNU aims to be recognised as the leading dual-sector University in the region, supporting individual achievement, national aspiration and regional development, and

providing skills and solutions to address global challenges.

Striving for excellence in all we do, our focus is on education for employability, research with real-world impact, an outstanding student experience, and a sustainable future for our university, our communities, and our planet.

Apply Now

New and continuing students can enrol now for Semester 1, 2023 studies online or at any Fiji National University (FNU) campus located around the country.

For ease in admission and registration, FNU has dedicated Enrolment Centres at the Nasinu, Derrick, Koronivia, Ba, Natabua, Namaka and Labasa campuses.

These centres have staff available to assist students with enrolment, IT requirements, and selection of study options.

For further information, students can visit our website at www.fnu.ac.fj, email the Academic Team via admission@fnu.ac.fj or Text (Toll-Free) 857 for Vodafone and Inkk users.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing you studying at FNU in the new academic year.



Professor Lyn Karstadt
Vice-Chancellor



SINGH'S UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO MEDICINE INSPIRES ALL

Dr Arylic Singh can attest to the fact that one's dreams can be achieved in various forms.

The 29-year-old from Nabilo in Tailevu is a proud alumnus of the Fiji National University's (FNU), College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS), and is currently pursuing his next ambition of becoming a neurosurgeon.

Dr Singh, father of a two-year-old son, is currently based at the Lautoka Hospital as a Surgical Registrar and is eager to use his expertise to improve the health and wellbeing of Fijian people.

"Ever since I was a child, I dreamt of becoming a doctor, and one day, I shared my dream with my parents," he said with a beaming smile.

"To my delight, they became my staunchest supporters and greatest motivators, guiding and encouraging me every step of the way until I finally achieved my ambition of earning a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS). I'm so proud of what I've accomplished."

Dr Singh (*pictured right*) quickly gained popularity on social media in Fiji during the second wave of COVID-19 with his informative videos posted on his accounts. He provided helpful information about a variety of issues and medical conditions in both English and the local vernacular languages.

"As doctors, it is essential that we ensure that the people are properly informed. I did my utmost to help people understand, and my videos

were received positively by the people in our communities," he shared.

"The noble profession of being a doctor is one that is highly respected and admired, as people entrust you with the responsibility to save their lives, as well as provide them with valuable advice that could improve their lives for the better in the long term.

"Brave soldiers fight on the frontlines to safeguard their people, while we, as medical professionals, battle illnesses such as COVID-19 and chronic diseases in order to ensure that our citizens can lead healthy lives and contribute to society."

Dr Singh acknowledged FNU for playing a pivotal role in helping him achieve his dream.

"I am immensely grateful to FNU for giving me the opportunity to join the medical programme and helping me realise my

full potential," he said.

"I have been truly impressed by the resources available at the College of Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences, which has all the necessary facilities to help students become professionals.

The knowledgeable lecturers and tutors are incredibly supportive and are dedicated to preparing us for any future challenges we may face."

He said with commitment and dedication, anything is possible. Dr Singh said he realised this during his tertiary studies as he had to stay on campus and away from his home and familiar surroundings.

Dr Singh said if someone had commitment and dedication, they could achieve the impossible.

"Becoming a doctor is not easy, one has to stay true to his or her dedication and fully commit themselves to the studies. If you can dream big, then you can also achieve that.

You will need to work overtime, do late-night studies, and sacrifice your leisure activities."

"But it will all be worth it."



QORO PURSUES ENGINEERING DREAM

Torika Qoro has high hopes of becoming the first female engineer in her family.

To achieve her ambition, Qoro has completed a Trade Diploma in Electrical Engineering, followed by a Diploma in Engineering (Electrical) (Level 6) at the Fiji National University (FNU).

From Viseisei in Vuda, Qori is now pursuing a Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) with Honours at FNU's College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST).

Studying in a field that is traditionally male-dominated has made the 26-year-old more determined to work harder and always succeed.

"Sometimes, the most challenging thing about being in this field is that your voice is not heard, and that people may underestimate you," she shared.

"However, that has not stopped me and is the motivation I need to be successful in my studies and career."

"If you are thinking of becoming a female engineer, remember, it doesn't matter if you're a woman or a man, the only important thing is your determination," she said proudly.

Qoro (*pictured above*) said studying engineering is both challenging and rewarding at the same time.

"Being an engineer will give you the opportunity to solve problems and



design new things that matter. You will contribute to making the world a better place," she said.

"You also get the opportunity to learn new things, since technology is always changing."

She added that FNU provided both the theory and practical components of study that she needed to excel in her studies and in the industry.

"The University is not all about theory, we also get to do hands-on projects which help us understand better how things work."

OUTREACH TEAM VISITS NAKOROTUBU DISTRICT

The Fiji National University (FNU) is an institution that provides opportunities and study pathways that cater to people from different backgrounds and interests.

This was highlighted by the Ra Assistant Roko, Pauliasi Cakobau during a recent outreach visit conducted by the University to Nakorotubu District.

"I believe this is a powerful testimony from FNU in reaching out to every household to showcase the different opportunities and the pathways that one can undertake to upskill their learning and life skills," Cakobau said.

"These visits by the FNU Outreach team creates a bond and partnership between communities and educational institutions to enable easy access to learning, promoting engagement and empowering communities and individuals."

Cakobau highlighted that the aim of the roadshow was to empower communities through education.

He reiterated that the core of this outreach and roadshow program was empowerment and FNU surely delivered to expectation.

"FNU met our expectations and the team's presence during the roadshow was beneficial to youths, especially to the final-year students at Nakorotubu Secondary School as they were able to decide on a study option to help achieve their life goals."

"Overall, FNU made a positive impact on the community, and this does not happen overnight, as it will



gradually strengthen."

"Vinaka vakalevu (Thank you) FNU for your presence and contribution to the development of Nakorotubu that will surely have a positive ripple effect in our communities and the nation."

Chief Guest at the event, Divisional Commissioner Western Apolosi Lewaqai commended FNU's support and outreach to the communities.

He highlighted that the national University offered courses in blended mode so that it could be readily available for those in communities who wished to study closer to home.

FNU Manager Outreach, Vishal Lal said that the institution believes that every Fijian should be given an equal opportunity to education.

"Whether you are on the mainland, in remote villages or on a maritime Islands, FNU reaches out to you," he said.

If you want the Outreach team to visit your community, contact us on outreach@fnu.ac.fj or call 3394000 ext: 2896.

LEDUA VIES FOR MICHELIN STAR CAREER



Bright-eyed Peni Frederick Seniyasi Ledua envisions himself as a chef at a Michelin star restaurant.

Attaining a Michelin star is the highest honour for any chef. Although restaurants are awarded the Michelin star, the chef in charge of the kitchen usually takes the credit for it.

Ledua (*pictured left*), 23, is currently pursuing his Diploma in Culinary Arts (Level 5) at the Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS).

The former Queen Victoria School student won a silver medal in the Local Dish with a Modern Twist Category at the recent FMF Salon Culinaire 2022 held at the Sheraton Fiji Golf and Beach Resort in Nadi.

"Getting to rub shoulders with some of the top chefs in the country who have years of experience in the culinary field was an amazing opportunity for me," Ledua shared.

"Participating in the competition and being able to win a silver medal in my category (Local Dish with a modern twist) is a blessing as all my hard work staying back in school and working the extra hours has finally paid off."

"Growing up, I would watch MasterChef on TV and it motivated me to become a chef, and that is the reason why I enrolled in this programme, because I knew it would be well suited for me," he explained.

Ledua is also thankful to FNU lecturers for providing engaging and relevant classes and practical learning.

CHAND EXCITED FOR STUDIES AT FNU



Mahatma Gandhi Memorial High School (MGM) student, Prikansha Yogeshni Chand was excited at the prospect of receiving provisional admission into her tertiary provider of choice – the Fiji National University (FNU).

Chand said her passion to work in the healthcare sector propelled her to enrol in the Bachelor of Nursing programme at FNU's College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS).

"I was overjoyed when I received my Provisional Offer Letter from FNU for the course," the Year 13 student shared.

"I have worked really hard throughout the year so that I can attain good marks in order to be part of FNU."

Chand (*pictured above*) said her dream was to study at FNU as the institution provided a wide range of programmes that comprised of practical components.

"The University has a lot of options for students to choose from and this will ensure everyone will be able to select a programme that is the same as their career ambitions," she said.

"I am really looking forward to getting my final Offer Letter once my final examination results are out."

Apply Now

FNU is now accepting applications for Semester 1, 2023 studies.

Students interested in joining TVET courses at FNU can apply now for one of the 4,600 placements available through the Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service (TSLs).

Eligible students must obtain a pass in Year 12, Certificate I, Certificate II or secure a final offer letter for any Certificate Level III, IV or Diploma level 5 programmes offered at FNU.

Under the TSLs Skills Qualification Scheme, 200 awards are eligible for students who have completed and passed with a minimum score of 250 in the Year 13 Examination or completed and passed with a minimum score of 270 in the Year 12 Examination. Further details on eligibility are available at www.tsls.com.fj

For further information, students can visit our website at www.fnu.ac.fj, email the Academic Team via admission@fnu.ac.fj or Text (Toll-Free) 857 for Vodafone and Inkk users.

FNU HELPS KRISHNA PERFECT HIS WELDING SKILLS

Kavneel Krishna always found his way into the welding workshop at an early age, even though he had no intentions of making a career out of welding.

Krishna's ability to produce creative pieces and observe projects come to fruition prompted him to pursue studies in Fabrication and Welding.

The former Drasa Secondary School student graduated from the Fiji National University (FNU) this year with a Certificate in Fabrication and Welding (Level 3). He is now involved in his family's booming construction business located in Lautoka.

"Growing up in a family of tradesmen and being passionate about welding and wanting to understand how it operates drew me to this programme. Building and using my hands go hand in hand," Krishna declared.

According to Krishna, studying at FNU has provided him with the necessary skills and content knowledge needed in the welding profession.

"The course, offered through FNU's College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), has enabled me to gain a solid foundation in welding theory and hands-on experience."

"I had a knack for welding and a keen interest in it, but I needed technical and vocational education and training (TVET) to advance my abilities."

Krishna was driven by his passion for learning and motivation to attain qualifications. As a certified welder, he can now utilise his skills in the booming construction industry.

"I had very little formal education. After completing my Year 9 education, I joined the technical college in Lautoka and studied Certificate II in fabrication and welding. But I didn't stop there and continued with a Certificate in Fabrication and Welding (Level 3)," he said.

"Being involved in the family construction business (Kam General Construction), my family advised me to continue my education," he said.

Krishna adds that he enjoyed his studies at FNU and learning from industry experts.

"Working with the instructors here

is the same as having a specialist in the field teaching you everything they know. They are highly knowledgeable. Everyone at FNU encouraged me to keep going; the faculty is inspiring and help their students succeed."

"There are various elements to welding. It poses challenges on multiple levels, including aesthetic, physical, and intellectual. Thanks to FNU's programme, you can pursue various career paths, which provides a solid foundation."

Krishna (*pictured below*) urges school leavers to enrol in the programme if they wanted to study in an exceptional applied fabrication and welding programme.

"I would absolutely recommend studying at FNU, especially if you want to be surrounded by like-minded students and academics who genuinely want you to succeed in this fast-changing employment environment," he shared.



KHAN KEEN TO SUCCEED

Mohammed Maazil Muzeb Khan is optimistic about climbing the ladder of success after completing his Master of Professional Accounting (CPA) from Fiji National University (FNU).

The 23-year-old is originally from Labasa, where his father is a taxi proprietor, and his mother a schoolteacher. Instilled by his parents with the values of hard work and dedication, Khan (*pictured right*) is confident of securing a top job in the accounting field.

He currently works for BDO Chartered Accountants as a graduate auditor.

"I joined FNU to further my knowledge in the accounting and audit fields. The programme offered by FNU, which I undertook at the College of Business, Hospitality, and Tourism Studies (CBHTS), is accredited by CPA Australia," he shared.

"This means it is internationally recognised and opens the door to new and better career opportunities to graduates both locally and internationally."

"FNU provides students with learning flexibility, especially for working students such as myself, with continuous guidance being provided by the respective lecturers and tutors."

"As an auditor, I constantly engage with various clients and this allows me to build relationships with people from different walks of life. The audit field is always evolving, which encourages me to ensure my knowledge is up to date with the latest changes in local and internal audit standard requirements."

"Undertaking the Master of Professional



Accounting (CPA) programme has taught me that not all knowledge is gained from books. During my studies, I had a lot of discussions with my colleagues as well as with the lecturers and tutors."

"This allowed me to think critically and creatively to solve complex issues in the business environment."

He said the profession was constantly evolving as local and international laws and standards were updated or new ones introduced.

"Studying might not seem obvious when you start, but later on in life, you will look back at this time of your life and realize this was a huge turning point for you. You will gain knowledge that will help you in your career, as well as make new friends, experience life, and learn to make choices that will determine your future."

"The services provided by FNU has contributed significantly towards my success during this

programme. The lecturers and tutors have been more than helpful in discussing and answering any queries that I have had regarding the respective units."

"The FNU staff had also ensured that registration and administration queries were resolved in a timely manner. The University also held seminars with Fiji Revenue and Customs Services and the Fiji Institute of Chartered Accountants, which shared knowledge about the future of tax and accountants in Fiji."

Khan said his family was his biggest source of inspiration.

"My parents have worked hard to ensure I achieve my life goals, which drives me to be successful and make them proud," he said.

"The hunger for success is also a motivating factor; the knowledge that my hard work and perseverance will help me achieve greater professional success is what keeps me going."

Flexible Fee Payment Plan

The University offers flexible payment options that allows students to spread the cost of fees across the duration of their study at no additional costs.

New and continuing students facing financial difficulties and seeking to coordinate a payment plan, will be required to fill a Tuition Payment Plan Agreement Form and have this submitted and approved by the University's Finance Department.

The form is accessible on the FNU website on the link https://www.fnu.ac.fj/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Payment_Plan_Application.pdf

Interested applicants who wish to seek further information can contact the University via the email RevenueQueries@fnu.ac.fj



2023 ROADSHOW

Operating hours: 9am to 3pm



Join the FNU Enrolment Drive Team for

- academic counselling
- applications and instant offer letters

The Fiji National University (FNU) is making it easier for new and continuing students to receive academic counselling and assistance with their admission and registration process through a series of roadshows scheduled around the country from next month.

The roadshows are in addition to the guidance and

assistance that students can receive at any FNU campus regarding their Applications for Semester 1, 2023 studies.

Students, parents, and guardians can visit the Roadshow locations to also learn more about our Free Reskilling and Upskilling short courses, and technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and higher education programmes on offer.



EXCITING SHORT COURSES AT FNU - MATAIRAVULA



Adi Kula Matairavula with her family after her graduation from the Basic Operations in a Call Centre (Level 3) course.

Adi Kula Matairavula was all smiles as she attended her graduation ceremony for the Certificate in Basic Operations in a Call Centre at the Fiji National University (FNU).

Matairavula was one of 100 students who graduated from the TVET programme offered by FNU's College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS).

The course is also one of the many free short courses that is part of the Reskilling and Upskilling initiative offered at FNU.

"I really enjoyed studying this course offered at FNU. I feel excited to be graduating with this certificate, and I am thankful that I have finally reached the end of the course," Matairavula said.

Hailing from Ucuivanua, Verata in Tailevu, the 28-year-old resides at Nabaka, Waiqanake in Rewa.

"It was a little bit challenging as I had to leave my two children at home and reach the University on time. They would start crying and I would have to play with them and then leave home," she shared.

"If you want to be part of an industry with high demand for skilled workers, then this is an exciting course to study. I would encourage students to take this course at FNU."

Free Short Courses

Eligible Fijians can Apply Now to undertake a free short course at FNU. There are 25 short courses offered at FNU's College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS), College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST) and National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC).

To qualify for the Free Short courses at FNU, prospective students will have to complete an application form and submit it with the following documents: a self-declaration of unemployment, Valid Photo ID, TIN Details and a Birth Certificate.

The short courses will be offered in 2023. For more details, visit our website on <https://www.fnu.ac.fj/tvetpasifika/programmes/short-courses>, email admission@fnu.ac.fj or Text (Toll-Free) 857 for Vodafone and Inkk users.

The FREE SHORT courses offered are as follows;

National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC)

1. Management Development & Leadership – Hospitality
2. Payroll Management
3. Strategic Planning, Effective Budgeting & Cost Control
4. Construction Fundamentals
5. Plumbing Basics
6. Block Laying
7. Certificate of Attainment in Care Giving
8. Fundamentals of Baking & Patisserie
9. Fundamentals of Cookery
10. Fundamentals of Food & Beverages
11. Screen Printing Artwork & Designs
12. Domestic Electrical Installation
13. Retail Services
14. Project Scope and Time Management
15. Basic Food Safety Management
16. OHS Modules I and II
17. Basic Security Guards Training

The application closing date for the NTPC short courses is **Monday, 9 January 2023.**

College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS)

1. Sustainable Tourism
2. New Tourism Soft Skills
3. Basic Operations in a Call Centre Level 3

College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST)

1. Automotive Light Machinery Repair
2. Diagnose and Repair Automotive, Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditions (AHVAC)
3. Engineering Project Management
4. Data Communication and Networking

The application closing date for the CBHTS and CEST short courses is **Monday, 30 January 2023.**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS GAIN INSIGHT AT FNU CONFERENCE

Twenty students from Griffith University in Australia were part of the Fiji National University's (FNU) International Conference on Business, Hospitality, and Tourism (CBHTS) at the Namaka Campus last month as part of their study tour experience.

The students were in Fiji to immerse themselves in Fijian academic and professional, and social cultures and balance theoretical developments with practical and strategic considerations of the management of diverse people.

Griffith University Bachelor of Business student, Rachael Bridges, said she gained great insight on the experiences that Fijians faced during COVID-19.

The students also undertook cross-cultural training and were immersed in the Fijian culture, history, and arts. They teamed up with the Fiji National University student ambassadors to act as local ambassadors.

"I gained perspective on how COVID has affected Fiji and the strategies used to counter the pandemic. I had a good time in Fiji and really enjoyed teaming up with the student ambassadors to explore the opportunities. It was a very different experience being in Fiji," she shared.

The tour leader, Dr William Vuk Despotovic,

a senior lecturer at the Department of Employment Relations and Human Resources at Griffith University, said the tour would benefit the students in their learning.

"The study tour in Nadi, Fiji explored the contribution of human resource management (HRM) to the efficiency and productivity of organisations in the Asia-Pacific region," Dr Despotovic said.

"The programme was funded by the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan (NCP) Mobility Program and organised by the Griffith Business School Department of Employment Relations and Human Resources in partnership with FNU's College of Business, Hospitality, and Tourism Studies."

The study tour allowed students to attend workshops and seminars delivered by private and public sector industry speakers, attend lectures delivered by



academic staff from Fiji National University and the Department of Employment Relations and Human Resources (Griffith Business School), undertake industry site visits to Human Resource Management operations across various public and private sector organisations, and attend an industry/academic conference relating to 'Post Pandemic Resilience: A sustainable approach'.



FNU students gain practical experience at inaugural Plant Health Clinic

Plant health is crucial to ensure sustainable and profitable crop production and food and nutrition security.

In this regard, plant health clinics are an avenue for farmers and growers to bring in infected or “sick” plants to plant doctors, who would provide diagnosis and recommendations for treatment or management.

As part of its provision of real-world industry exposure, the Fiji National University (FNU) recently collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture to conduct a first Plant Health Clinic at the Sigatoka Research Station.

FNU Master of Science in Agriculture student, Shylene Prasad highlighted that the plant health clinic provided students with the needed exposure to industry practices and standards.

“We have gained additional knowledge and exposure from this clinic, and we look forward to more avenues as such whereby the students will be able to further practice what we have learnt,” Prasad said.

“We have also observed how the clinic is conducted in terms of the planning and communication required with neighboring communities and farmers and the procedures that need to be followed.”

“Practical and educational trips such as this add to our student learning experience at FNU. My advice to prospective students who wish to study and venture into a career in the agricultural, fisheries and forestry sector is to apply now and study at FNU.”

FNU’s College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (CAFF) staff were accompanied by four Masters students and more than 35 final-year Bachelor of Science in Agriculture students who were able to apply their theoretical knowledge during the clinic.

CAFF Department of Crop and Plant Protection Assistant Professor, Dr Mereia Fong said this was



Fiji National University (FNU) collaborates with the Ministry of Agriculture to conduct a first Plant Health Clinic at the Sigatoka Research Station. (picture insert Dr Mereia Fong)

the first plant health clinic conducted in collaboration between FNU and the Ministry.

The Agriculture Extension Officers brought infected plants to the clinic which was conducted at the Sigatoka Research Station. The students then diagnosed the diseased and insect-damaged plants and offered solutions and recommendations on prevention and control measures.

“The students were also responsible for taking note of specific details, such as crop abnormality details, and crop history to ensure that the necessary information

was available for future reference.”

FNU Bachelor of Science in Agriculture final-year student, Sheryl Shalini Dutt said the clinic also enabled the students to improve their communication skills.

“Through the clinic we were able to approach and communicate with the farmers and explain the diagnosis of the diseased plants to them. This helped in building good communication skills between farmers and plant health doctors in the production of yield and management”.

Learning support for students

Beginning tertiary education is a challenging yet amazing time in one’s life. Students have the opportunity to gain new experiences, make new friends, learn new skills, as well as achieve academic excellence.

In addition to this, students may also encounter challenges and obstacles adapting to a different learning environment compared to high school, or the workforce for those who are both working and studying.

To address this, the Fiji National University (FNU), provides learning support services listed below to aid students in their journey at FNU.

Some of the services provided by FNU to assist you with your studies are the Peer Assisted Learning (PAL), *Noqubuddy* Programme, Math Help Hub, and English Language Hub.

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL)

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) is a free-of-charge structured study session to help students with their studies. PAL Leaders are students with a strong academic record and have successfully completed the courses themselves. Assistance is provided to students from week 3 to week 15.

Noqubuddy Programme

Noqubuddy means “My Buddy”. It is a programme that assists local and international first-year undergraduate students to smoothly transition into their learning journey at FNU. This programme runs from week 1 to week 7 of the semester to help first-year students adjust well to university life and overcome the challenges they may face.



Math Help Hub (MH²)

Math Help Hub is a service which provides mathematics and statistics support and advice to students from all disciplines. It is a face-to-face service provided to FNU students by the staff members at the School of Mathematical and Computing Science. Only FNU students are open to this service taking any course that involves mathematics or statistics.

English Language Hub

The English Language Hub (ELH) is the student

learning support arm of the Centre of Learning and Teaching Enhancement (CLTE). This support helps FNU students from all disciplines and abilities to become more effective writers (both in academic and non-academic genres) and oral communicators—both of which are essential to student success at FNU and beyond.

For more details on learning enhancement services, visit our website on <https://clte.fnu.ac.fj/>



Talamoa

with our Alumni



SCAN TO REGISTER



Namosimalua Sprints towards Goals

with preaching and teaching activities, despite working full-time and raising a family.”

“This strong spiritual foundation assisted me in my life from being a student to my current professional career.”

Education and Career

Namosimalua completed his primary education in Veiuo Primary School and attended secondary school at Suva Grammar High School. He represented Suva Grammar High School during the Cokes Athletics and was influential in raking in medals for the team.

In 2007 and 2008, Namosimalua and the likes of Niko Verekauta helped Suva Grammar win the Boys division title.

After completing high school studies, Namosimalua was selected to be part of the team that was sent overseas to train for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Despite being one of Fiji’s 2008 Beijing Olympic medal prospects, he returned to Fiji to pursue a two-year Diploma of Teaching Course at the then Fiji College of Advanced Education (FCAE).

“This was not a hard choice to make, as I knew that FCAE [which is now part of the Fiji National University’s (FNU), College of Humanities and Education (CHE)] had mandatory practical assessments,” he shared.

“After graduating in 2009 with a Diploma in Education (Majoring in Physical Education and Art Craft), my first posting was to Natabua High School as the PEMAC teacher for 3 years.”

“I later joined the Fiji National Sports Commission as the Sports Development Officer.”

“I then joined the Fiji National University as the Sports Coordinator at the Department of Student Services under the Office of the Registrar.”

“More recently, I have taken on the added role of Gym Supervisor of FNU’s Sports and Wellness Centre at Nasinu Campus.”

“This has been the pinnacle of my

professional experience. Not only am I an integral part of this great direction toward overseeing all aspects of the Fiji University Sports Associations programme at FNU, I work closely with individual athletes and teams to ensure that everyone participating have an enjoyable and rewarding experience.”

Motivation

“My wife, Kelera Namosimalua and two daughters Miriama and Adi Lavenia are my inspiration to excel in life,” he said proudly.

“I am currently pursuing my Bachelor of Education (Secondary) (Physical Education and Art and Craft) at FNU and I am grateful for the blended mode of learning that has allowed me to work and study at the same time.”

Words of Wisdom

“Mohammed Ali once said ‘I hated every minute of training but I said don’t quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion’,” Namosimalua shared.

“I have always referred to his quote whenever struggles seemed endless and remind myself that not every day is the same.”

“Being a working student at times was difficult, as I could have both assignments and work projects that were due at the same time.”

“However, my determination and time management has enabled me to effectively balance my studies and work commitments.”

Namosimalua’s word of advice to all students is “whatever the mind conceives, you will achieve it”.

“So always have a plan of what you envision yourself to be in the years to come and work towards that goal.”

Alumni Connect

Graduates of FNU and its former institutions can register to be part of the exclusive Alumni Connect portal and remain connected to their classmates and the University.

Registered alumni can receive news and updates on key University activities, read alumni success and feature articles, scholarship and upskilling opportunities, networking events and professional development and training seminars.

To register, please scan the QR code at the top left corner of this page.

Growing up in a house that loved to watch sports and athletics, fueled Iliesa Namosimalua’s passion for sports.

From a young age, Namosimalua made the easy decision to pursue a career in the sports and fitness industry.

“Being a passionate athlete and representing Fiji in athletics fueled my passion to excel in a career in this field,” he shared.

“I was a Gold Medalist at the 2005 Pacific Mini Games in Palau, represented Fiji in the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Athletics and in 2007, I represented Fiji and was awarded the Pacific Games Medalist.”

“So, the desire to contribute to Fiji athletics and sports was nurtured from early beginnings and was the driving force behind my success on the field.”

Namosimalua hails from Naro, Moala in Lau and is the eldest of two siblings. His late father was a Military Officer with the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) and his mother was a senior education officer. Namosimalua considers his parents to be the biggest motivating factor in his life.

“My parents were my biggest inspiration. Godly values and spiritual growth were instilled in me from childhood. I admire their desire for spiritual growth and participation

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FNUNIKUA wants to HEAR FROM YOU

FNUNIKUA welcomes submissions by staff and students for publication in the newsletter. Please send your suggestions, comments or articles for consideration to mprc@fnu.ac.fj

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