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& Communications

Dear Readers,

Greetings to the University community and welcome to another update for 2022. As usual, with the hustle and bustle, another year has passed, which gives us all an opportunity to reflect on ourselves and realise how far we have come as a tertiary institution and as Fiji's National University. It has been an eventful year, and 2022 indeed got us all back in full force with COVID-19 still maintaining its grip on the global economy. The supply chain issues continue to impact all sectors in Fiji and abroad. The equipment and materials manufacturers face challenges in sourcing components or raw materials.

The overall focus of the Division is to assist in the enhancement of student experience, assist the

University in achieving financial sustainability and lead sustainability initiatives. 2022 has been a tremendous year for the Division, especially with the responsibility to oversee the major portfolios of the University. Despite the challenges, the Division has always strategically overcome the obstacles through better planning, serving as a learning experience.

From the start, our focus has been on providing our stakeholders with innovative and sustainable facilities while concentrating on producing high-quality output. The Division has planned for more exciting projects in the future to provide a conducive and enriching student learning experience.

The Division is delighted to provide you with an update on the overall projects undertaken by the Division of Capital Projects & Infrastructure.

Project Highlights

College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies Complex

The 4-storey \$27M Complex located in Nasinu Campus was completed in October. The facility was officially opened on 28th October 2022 by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum. The University is grateful to the Fijian Government for its contribution to the project.

The new CBHTS Complex consists of a Student Central Office for student academic

services, finance, and ITS needs, classrooms and workspaces, and a 450-seat lecture theatre inclusive of accessible seats for students with disabilities. The building is also disabled-friendly, and the building project allows for the centralisation of key services provided to students at the University. Unlike most FNU Campuses, the Nasinu Campus had buildings scattered all over the campuses with old infrastructure and no connectivity for access to staff and learning spaces. The new facility has made accessibility much greater, with academic staff at arm's length and the learning spaces.



Fiji Maritime Academy 3-Storey Project

The construction works on the three-Storey Fiji Maritime Academy Project at Nasese recommenced in mid-March this year. The building provides the Academy with the space to introduce new courses and higher-level training and Certification of seafarers. The project progress is notable since the recommencement of the construction works, and it expects to open its doors by Semester 1 2023.



Labasa Campus, Naduna

With FNU's objective to enhance learning and teaching facilities for the student of the Northern Division and achieve the best value for money, FNU embarked on carrying out the refurbishment works at the former Technical College Campus in Naduna. The facility provides better TVET facilities for the students as well as a better holistic learning environment. The Campus provides space for students to play outdoors and use the outdoor environment for sitting and studying or just mingling with their colleagues. The University Council and Management support have been tremendous towards this project. The facility was officially opened on the 10th of June 2022.



Sitting Bure and Feeder Shed – Koronivia

The Sitting Bure and Feeder Shed projects are located at the Livestock Farm, Koronivia Campus. The Sitting Bure consists of a study space, washroom, and changing areas, while the Feeder Shed will provide access to feed experimentation. These facilities were a much-needed addition to the assets on the livestock farm for the students to have access to a space to study and collaborate, gear up for the farm activities, and enhance their feed knowledge through the feeder shed facility. The Sitting Bure Project commenced in the first quarter of 2021 and was completed in the beginning of 2022 and the Feeder Shed construction commenced immediately after the completion of the Sitting Bure.



Estate Strategy

The University, through the Master Plan, indicated certain estates that were under-utilised or dormant for diversification or disposal. This strategy is in line with the Strategic Plan for financial sustainability. The University is looking at strengthening its existing centers of excellence, maximising operational efficiency,

and providing staff and students with a better campus experience. The University has sold the Navua Hotel property that had been vacant for some years. As a result, the University has reduced its operating costs from an additional site. The University is exploring the best possible options for the other sites to enhance its revenue streams, allowing it to invest in its core campuses.

Sustainability Highlights: Green & Sustainable FNU

The Division coordinated the Sustainability Week Campaign with the support of the Colleges and Divisions, which was held from 17th October to 21st October, 2022. It was good to see the students and staff coming forward to support this great initiative. Sustainability is at the heart of the Fiji National University (FNU) and as a higher education and national tertiary institution, we must promote the protection of the environment, social cohesion, and economical performance through various sustainable practices.

The clean-up campaign organised in the Northern, Central, and Western Divisions had the full support of the FNU staff, students, management, and contributions from the local authorities and not forgetting the project contractors who came forward to take part in the initiatives. A clean-up campaign is an effective platform to show communities that waste management is important. These initiatives create meaningful change in a variety of public spaces.

The Division will continue to encourage more sustainable activities to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and with the effective implementation of the yearly Sustainability Plan goals to raise awareness among our staff and students and the wider community.

The Division would like to acknowledge all the University stakeholders for their ongoing support during the year. Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the FNU Family.

