## ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

11 July 2023

## **Bula Vinaka!**

It was an amazing week filled with productive discussions on art, education, politics, environment, and other issues concerning the Pacific during the three-day 5th Pacific Island Universities Research Network Conference (PIURN) in the Cook Islands last week.

Although I was away, home is truly where the heart is, and I was overjoyed with the amazing turn out at the Fiji National University's booth at the Fiji Showcase. Thank you to everyone who were based at the booth to serve; and to those who visited to enquire, apply, or just to say hello.

To all our returning students, I hope you have registered for your units and are excited to return soon for Semester 2 studies. I also look forward to welcoming more new students onto our campuses!

As part of our Student Experience, the Disability Students' Environment Champions Club must be commended on the launch of their Sustainability project. I have always been passionate about environment conservation, and I hope to see more similar projects in other campuses soon.

We are also making ripples in the research field and our recent collaboration with PHAMA Plus is just one way in which we are collaborating with stakeholders to diversify the kava industry and help farmers to become financially empowered.

The recent National Budget allocation to our joint Pacific Action on Climate Transitions (PACT) research centre with the Monash University is a testament of the Government's commitment to working towards exceptional research in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

As we enter a new week, I look forward to the many more achievements that are coming our way as the FNU family.

I wish everyone the very best and may you have a productive week ahead.

Vinaka

Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba Acting Vice-Chancellor







