



FIJI NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

14 August 2023



Professor Kabini Sanga (sitting fifth from left), FNU Chancellor Semesa Karavaki (middle) and I with FNU Council and Senior Leadership Team members during the workshop.

Bula Vinaka!

I hope you have all had a restful weekend! Along with our Senior Leadership Team (SLT), I was occupied throughout the last few days at a joint Council/SLT workshop on university governance. This is in line with SDG Goal 4 and Goal 17.

We were honoured to have the workshop facilitated by the Victoria University of Wellington's esteemed Associate Professor Kabini Sanga. Associate Professor Sanga was the former Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Solomon Islands College of Higher Education; now the Solomon Islands National University (SINU).

He has also held leadership positions in teacher education, at the Ministry of Education and in secondary schools in Solomon Islands and was a Director of the Institute of Education (IOE) of the University of the South Pacific (USP).

Associate Professor Sanga is a Pacific regional educator, mentor and consultant for donor agencies, Pacific Islands governments and others for over two decades.

He thoroughly discussed key governance principles during the workshop and the Council and SLT members benefitted greatly from the engaging sessions.

I believe it is important for all students and staff to be kept updated on the activities of your leaders as our actions and decisions affect us all in areas such as learning, teaching and research.

And now, as we enter Week 5 of Semester 2, I hope that all our students have settled in and are coping well with your studies, assignments, and extracurricular student activities.

We're also a few weeks away from the Mid Semester Break, which I am sure most of us are looking forward to.

There are a lot of exciting events happening this week at the University. We have the National Conference on IT in the West, and I look forward to hearing the discussions and insights into the world of technology.

It was amazing to see the online updates of our students who participated in the 2023 Hospitality Art Fair last week at the Namaka Campus. This week, we get to acknowledge and award our student winners of the various hair and beauty, housekeeping, cocktail mixing, and culinary competitions.

To wrap up the week, we have the 60th-anniversary celebrations of the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme in Fiji! This is certainly a milestone achievement and kudos to the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) for administering the scheme over the years.

Apprenticeship schemes play a significant role in the development of a country as it provides trade skills development, address industry needs and skills shortages and contributes to economic growth, amongst other key factors.

Hence, I'd like to acknowledge and commend all graduates and current students of the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme and all the trainers, companies, and staff working under this scheme.

May we all continue to contribute to the success of Fiji and our neighbouring Pacific Islands countries as mandated in our Strategic Plan 21-26.

Vinaka

Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba
Acting Vice-Chancellor

