



FIJI NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

6 September 2023

Bula Vinaka!

Welcome to another new week here at the Fiji National University!

We're on Mid Semester Break for most of our students – enjoy this time and make sure to set aside time to rest and relax before resuming studies in the coming weeks.

All the best to all our students undergoing examinations over the next few days. I hope you are all prepared and ready to take on your exams. If you're faced with unfamiliar or particularly challenging questions during your exams, move on to answer the others so you can have time to return and solve these questions.

I'd like everyone to prioritise time for physical activity and healthy eating habits so that your physical and mental wellbeing is positively maintained.

To begin our new week, I was pleased to host the OVC Leadership Seminar Series at Nasinu Campus on Monday. The Seminar featured the Pacific Elders' Voice, which is an independent group that consists of prominent leaders such as Dr Hilda Heine, Anote Tong, Enele Sopoaga, Dame Meg Taylor, Thomas "Tommy" Remengesau Jr, Professor Konai Helu Thaman, Kaliopate Tavola and Professor Robert Underwood.

The group shared valuable insights based on their own time-tested leadership and advocacy for Pacific Island

countries and Pacific Island issues. The crowd present, including those on Zoom, were honoured to be part of the same space as these Pacific elders.

The panel discussions centred around the theme: **Leadership for a Sustainable Pacific**. It was amazing to see the responses from our FNU Youth Panel around pressing issues such as climate change, governance, and other matters.

We also had the three-day Pacific Islands Health Research Symposium [PIHRS] that began on Monday in Nadi. The PIHRS is the flagship event for the Fiji Institute of Pacific Health Research (FIPHR), the research arm of the University's College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences.

The Symposium provides a platform for researchers in Fiji and the Pacific region to share, network and learn from each other.

As the University community participates in various learning, teaching and research activities this week, may we all do so with the collective aim of contributing to these spaces to enhance our own delivery of quality training and education.

Vinaka and have a productive week ahead!

Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba
Acting Vice-Chancellor

