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### Division of Capital Projects & Infrastructure

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### Dear Readers,

Welcome to the recent edition of the Divisions newsletter. The Division of Capital Projects & Infrastructure (CPI) is delighted to take you through the series of events for the first half of the year. The Division aspires to deliver the best learning and teaching spaces that are sustainable, user-friendly, and up to the quality standard, which will enhance the student experience and University visibility.

Project Management, Sustainability, and Estates Strategy are the three primary University portfolios that the Division is handling. The Division is striving to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Plan, and despite the enormous obstacles encountered, the Division has made significant progress since 2021 in its respective portfolios.

The construction industry is challenged in many aspects of its operation. It is dealing with concerning issues trending since the COVID-19

pandemic, such as supply chain disruption, labour shortages, and price volatility. Changes in global economic conditions and the rising inflation rate have affected the overall construction processes in most of the projects. Hence, with such uncertainties, the Division ensures that overall risk management practices are implemented to mitigate any risk or losses that may potentially occur on the project.

The Division managed multiple small to medium projects in the first half of the year, while it continued to work with Management and the FNU Council to seek direction on a few major projects in line with the University's strategic priorities. Some of the projects handled are pilot projects for the University that will provide lessons learned and operational mechanisms to continue implementing on other campuses.

The Division would like to show its appreciation to all the Colleges and Divisions for their support and assistance in enabling the CPI to deliver its services effectively.

## Project Highlights

### Installation of Wayfinding Signage

While the University is systematically enhancing its infrastructure, following the completion and endorsement of the Signage Manual, the Division of Capital Projects & Infrastructure collaborated with FNU Stakeholders to initiate a pilot endeavor focused on implementing Wayfinding Signage. This initiative was carried out across three chosen campuses: Nasinu, Pasifika, and Natabua Campus. The newly installed signage encompasses internal navigation aids, campus identification markers, pedestrian guidance, and vehicular route indicators.

Most of the wayfinding signage at Nasinu and Pasifika Campuses has been successfully implemented, yielding valuable insights.

Considering these experiences, the Division, in liaison with the Division of Marketing and Communications and the Division of Estates and Facilities, is committed to enhancing the Signage Manual for a more user-friendly experience. Consequently, revisions to the Signage Manual are presently underway to incorporate the lessons learned from the implementation process.



### Fire Detection Systems for FNU Campuses

The Division of Estates and Facilities handed the project to CPI after engaging the Contractor, for the contract management and implementation. The project aimed to ensure that added fire alarm and safety support is provided at FNU Campuses. Works have been completed at Nursing, Natabua, McGregor Hostel, and Ba Campus. Works are continuing at the Pasifika Campus, Ono-Street

Hostel, and Nadi Campus. The award for a second contractor is in progress to carry out fire detection system installation at Nasinu and Derrick Campus, and works are expected to commence within quarter 3. The systems will be connected to the National Fire Authority to enable them to attend to fire calls immediately. The University will require the university community to be responsible users of the spaces and avoid any false alarms, as it will impact the University and national resources.

## Nasinu Frontage Upgrade

The Nasinu Campus Frontage upgrade project is currently in progress and is split into phases. The demolition of the ERC building has been completed, including road widening works behind the new CBHTS building with road signages installed. The gate and footpath extension are currently in the award process.

The carpark and security booth upgrade works are currently open for Tender and are earmarked to commence during the Semester 2 break.

The project is aligned with the University Master Plan, which will improve the aesthetic of the Nasinu Campus and provide better accessibility to campus facilities. The project considers disability access and aims to provide a user-friendly facility for all our stakeholders.

## Design, Supply, and Installation of Video Surveillance and Video Management System

The project aspires to improve the surveillance of the campuses through the installation of a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) system and is a pilot project for the University. This project is being implemented in liaison with the Division of Estates & Facilities. The current phase includes installation at Nursing, Tamavua, Pasifika, and Nadi Campus, with a centralised monitoring centre at Derrick Campus. The cabling works have commenced at Nursing and Tamavua Campuses and the system is expected to be online by the end of the year.

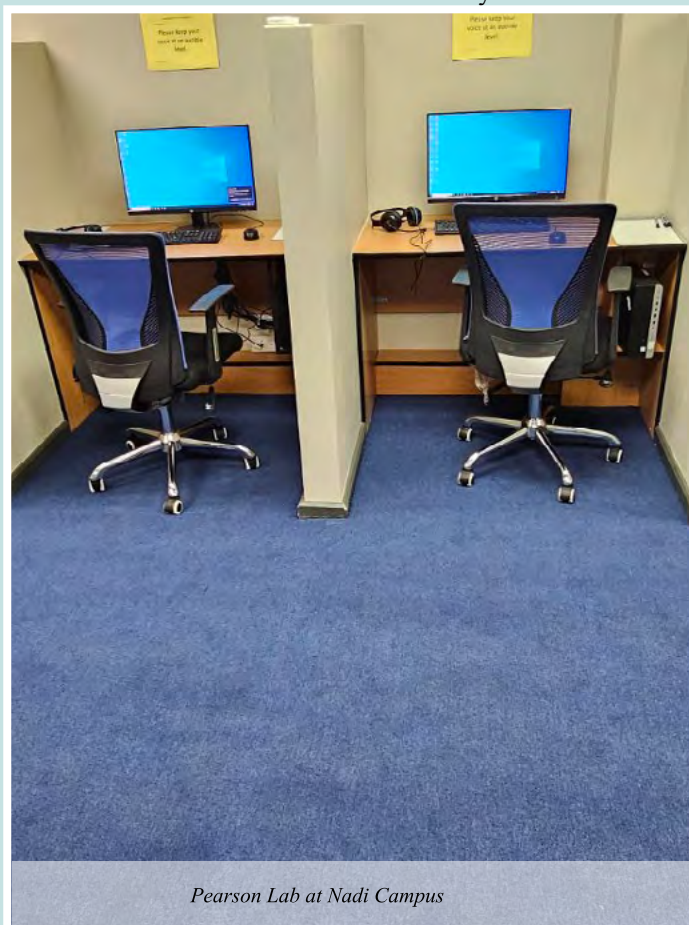
## Koronivia Recreation Facility

The recreational facility at Koronivia Campus offers various sporting games such as volleyball, netball, and futsal for the staff and students to engage in physical activities, promote social well-being, and encourage wellness sessions. Providing better student experiences is one of the goals of the Division, which is also aligned with Pillar 3 (Student Experience) of the University's Strategic Plan. Such a project will not only enhance productivity in the education system but will also promote good health and well-being. The project has been completed and will be handed over to the College for use.

## Pearson Test Centres at Nadi and Narere Campus

In pursuit of its strategic goals, FNU has embarked on a program to diversify its dormant and underutilised properties. This initiative is aligned with the 2021-2026 Master Plan, and Namaka Centre was identified as one such property. In collaboration with NTPC, the Division relocated Computer Labs, Staff Offices, and the Pearson Test Centre to the Nadi Campus.

Commencing in March 2023, the project saw the initial relocation of computer laboratories and staff offices completed by April. Subsequently, design enhancements were introduced, including the incorporation of a cutting-edge testing room, resulting in an expanded capacity for the Pearson Test Centre. All construction activities concluded in June 2023, and FNU obtained compliance from Pearson VUE International concurrently.



*Pearson Lab at Nadi Campus*

In addition to the above, the relocation of Pearson Lab from Derrick to the Narere Campus was also crucial in order to meet the standards and requirements of Pearson Vue. This relocation from Derrick to Narere Campus commenced in May 2023 and is expected to be completed by August.



## NTPC Hair Salon Relocation to Nadi Campus

The Beauty and Hair Salon Facility at the CAAF Compound property has been relocated within months without impacting the operations and made available in time for the semester 1 operations. The facility provides training for short courses and certificates in manicures and pedicures, facial treatment, body treatment, and hairdressing. This project will ensure that the industrial demands are met by students pursuing education in these field. Hence, improving student experience as well.



## NTPC Computer Labs at Narere Centre

The relocation of the computer labs from Derrick to Narere Centre commenced early this year and was completed in March 2023. The purpose of relocation was to centralise NTPC operations and to allow additional spaces for CEST. This project gave opportunities to both NTPC and CEST to maximise utilisation of the spaces and make good use of it. The relocation of the Narere Centre's computer lab will accommodate more students while improving learning and teaching capacity.

## Container Lab at Nursing Campus

The College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Science (CMNHS) has undertaken a research study that assesses COVID-19 immunity in the Fijian Population and informs ongoing interventions for disease control in the country, which is funded by DFAT. Due to the inadequate spaces, equipment, and storage within the current facilities, CMNHS has chosen to procure a Container Laboratory similar to what has been used by the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) during the initial outbreak of COVID-19 for testing. The Container Laboratory will enhance research capacity, stimulate staff research, and enhance learning and teaching.

The College engaged the Division to provide infrastructure and housing facilities for the Container Laboratory, which include a covered connecting walk, concrete plinth, and roof for the Container Laboratory & and water and electrical provisions. All work is nearing completion.



## Estates Strategy

To support the University, achieve financial sustainability, and ensure there is revenue generation from dormant and underutilised properties, the Division, through the Estates Working Group, Management, and FNU Council, is working to ensure that there are sustainable investments in the properties and that the maximum utilisation is achieved. The Raiwai property has been successfully leased out to provide additional cash flow to the University to support its operations and provision of better centralised facilities. The lease arrangement also saw the completion of the facility's renovation at the lessee's cost.

At this juncture, the Division would like to acknowledge all its stakeholders both internal and external for their continuous support in achieving the goals and leading towards the growth and success of the University holistically.

***Vinaka!***

***Niranjwan Chettiar***